MAINE FARMER.

AGRICULTURE, MECHANIC ARTS, LITERATURE, NEWS, &c.

HOMAN & BADGER, Publishers. "OUR HOME, OUR COUNTRY AND OUR BROTHER MAN." TERMS: Two Dollars, in Advance.

Vol. XLVI. Augusta, Maine, Saturday Morning, February 23, 1878. No. 13.

Maine Farmer.

S. L. BOARDMAN, Agricultural Editor.

The Season's Plans.

Only two weeks more of winter! At least so says the calendar. It is true the almanac is not always right, and we generally get some *solid* weather in March. But at any rate spring is coming. The sun begins to come back from his southern trip, the mornings grow longer, the days are stretching out, and all signs indicate the not very far-off period of renewed activity upon the farm. Already business men are starting out on spring campaigns, and laying their plans for new goods and a reviving trade. Farmers must not be behind them in matters of equal importance. Farming is a business, and the shrewd, active farmer will not be slow in laying his plans for the work of the opening season. It will not do to wait till the frost is out of the ground, then wake up, rub one's eyes and say, "It's *about* time to *begin* to think what to do this *summer*." This will never, never answer! The plans for the season's work upon the farm must be arranged beforehand, just as the business man prepares in the winter for his spring trade, and in the summer for his winter trade. By April the farmer should know just what he is going to do, and by having his plans well matured take advantage of his work and keep it before him till the last load is harvested in the fall. This is just the time to arrange plans for the working and growing season of 1878. What shall they be? Let us indicate a few channels in which every plan the farmer may make, whatever the details, should run.

I. First of all comes the question of bread. And here the Maine farmer should ask himself, can I obtain bread for my family cheaper and easier by growing wheat, or by growing some other crop in place of wheat, which I can exchange for flour? And in answering this question he must take into consideration what his soil and opportunities are best fitted for, what his market is, and what his best chances would be for disposing of the crop he would grow if he did not grow wheat. But on one point in this line of thought let no mistake be made. Bread for his family is one of his first wants; and he MUST GET RID OF THE IDEA which has taken possession of so many farmers in Maine during the years that are past, *that we cannot grow wheat in Maine*. This is not true. We can grow wheat as well as any other crop—with a suitable preparation. It needs clean culture and liberal manuring; these however not only insure a good yield of wheat, but better succeeding crops and finally a higher standard of farming. With such facts regarding the yield of wheat in all parts of our State the past season, as have been published in our journal during the present winter—it would seem that no one need hesitate to make wheat a leading crop for 1878; and whatever else the farmer sows he SHOULD BY NO MEANS FAIL TO SOW WHEAT!

II. Connected with this question of bread, as well as the feeding of our farm animals, is the growing of corn. Shame on us that we are so lazy as to purchase corn! Shame on us that we loaf away our time at village stores, and borrow money to purchase western grown corn! Shame on us, that with a soil whose capacity for the production of this grand crop has never been fairly tested in its general cultivation, we have to work at something else than farming to scrape together the $2,250,000 which goes out of the State to pay for purchased corn! Think of it, for a moment; and by thinking of it, determine that a good field of corn shall be one of the corner landmarks of the season's work. It is pre-eminently the crop for all parts of Maine. It never rots; the Colorado "bugs" never eat it; it is free from all kinds of beetles and borers and bugs which so prey upon our other crops; it is a safe crop to grow; it never "goes back" on the man who gives it three faithful hoeings in a summer; it is sure to give an abundant return, and in fact it does not yet appear to what a large yield it is capable of attaining, where well manured and well taken care of. *Therefore by all means plant corn, this king of the cereals,* IN GOOD BREADTH THE COMING SPRING!

III. The dairy business of Maine is one of its leading interests, and where farmers are favorably located for carrying milk to a cheese factory they will find a profit in so doing. But if this plan is to be followed, care must be given to the selection of cows, and attention to their feed must form a leading object with the farmer. It will not pay to keep ordinary cows and give them a poor chance, if a good profit is to be expected from them. Very likely cheese factories have, during the past few years, been built in localities where there was not a large proportion of good milch cows—consequently they have been something of a failure. If they are to be continued to success, it must come about through the changes which have been indicated.

IV. Why should not the *growing of cattle* receive more attention than it has from our farmers during the past dozen years? We know very well, it will be said that we cannot compete with the West in this particular. But we do not propose to. There is a clear and positive profit in the growing of cattle upon the farm, other than that which comes from the cash they bring. But our farmers have got out of the way of growing cattle, just as they have got out of the way of growing wheat and raising corn. And why? Nobody can exactly tell. Yet our butchers send to Watertown for their best beeves about Christmas and New Years. It makes some work to raise cattle and so farmers don't keep them. Yet cattle are the foundation of good farming the world over. Why, we don't begin to have the working oxen in Maine that we had twenty years ago, nor the numbers of other cattle. When our Aroostook county farmers sell from four to five thousand head of cattle, and twenty thousand head of sheep yearly and make money by it—why cannot farmers in other parts of the State do the same?

V. ATTEND TO THE HOME RESOURCES OF FERTILIZATION. The enormous amount paid out by Maine farmers alone for the different kinds of commercial fertilizers, would thoroughly astonish us if the accurate figures could be obtained. Low estimates call it $325,000; it would be far safer to call it $500,000, and this we are inclined to think would be much below the actual amount. There is great risk in using these fertilizers; some are good, perhaps, but it has been found in other States that there is great fraud and deception in their manufacture, and the actual worth is not found in the article. Better, ten times over depend upon the farm yard, the compost heap, the home resources of every available kind. Let nothing of this nature go to waste, let everything be saved, and what is now paid out for commercial fertilizers may be spent for other objects.

Think for a moment of the course our people (the great majority of them) have been following the past few years. First, we see what they have been buying: CORN, WHEAT, PORK, HAMS, SHORTS, COAL, BEEF, MANURE and almost everything else. Now what have our farmers been selling? HAY! That is about all. A few potatoes, perhaps, but chiefly HAY—the crop of all others which they should consume at home. How have they lived? By putting their farms into savings banks, and trusting Providence. It is time such a course was stopped, and now is the moment, above all others, to look these facts squarely in the face and get ready to change them. A part of this change must be made this year of grace, 1878. Are you ready for the question?

Business and Farms in Aroostook County.

Before long, if we may ju'ge from the past, lots of young men in our State will begin to scrape together what money they can get hold of, and, turning their backs upon Maine, start for some far-off region of perpetual ease in some of the Western territories. But, judging from the experiences of those who have gone there from whom we have heard, they will find in any portion of the West, the same, or some other equally serious draw-back which they think common here at the east, and perhaps even worse. Why would it not be better for these young men, instead of going to a portion of the country already over-burdened with labor—to remain in our own State? Would they not in ten, yes, in five years, be far better off to take up a farm in Aroostook, invest the money they would spend at the west, in improvements, rather than to go west and take the rough and tumble of pioneer life with all its discomforts and outlawry? In almost any part of Aroostook they would have the advantages and compensations of the New England home life and society, while in most of the newer portions of the west they would be without such influences for good.

There have been set apart in Aroostook county about sixteen townships for settling purposes, in which are some twenty-five thousand acres, which are now offered by the State at a very nominal price, provided the settling duties are performed, after which the person occupying them receives a deed for the same from the State. The larger part of these lands are in north-eastern Aroostook, in the northern valley of the Aroostook river, or in the vicinity of Presque Isle, Fort Fairfield, Limestone, Pleasant Ridge, Woodland, Washburn, &c., and although in a high latitude, the land is superior for grazing, and for the growth of most farm crops. Most of the settling lots are in incorporated towns and plantations, where are the benefits of good roads, schools, churches, &c. The terms of payment are intentionally made easy by the State, in order that young men of small means may secure to themselves a farm and home in our own State, at almost their own price. Before deciding to start for the west, our young men should send to the State Land Agent, Augusta, Maine, for a map and circular concerning these lands which will give all particulars and information needed by any party who thinks of settling upon them.

But all young men do not intend to become farmers. Very well; there are opportunities for business of various kinds in different parts of the county, which hold out to young men of different tastes, good advantages. There are mill sites, opportunities for different sorts of manufacturing, store keeping, and such business openings as always present themselves in new and enterprising communities. Aroostook county is not all trees and bears, as many seem inclined to believe, but is a rich and fertile section, having all the social and business advantages of older parts of the State, in direct railroad communication with Boston—the great business heart of New England; and a visit there this spring will convince any young man it is a better place in which to make a home than the uncertain and distant West.

Just What we Mean!

Not long ago, in conversation with one of the most successful and honorable business men of Maine, connected with a firm doing probably the largest business in flour of any house in the State, if not in New England—a firm handling upon an average one thousand barrels a week the year round—we stated frankly that our purpose and aim was *to put a stop to his business*, by energizing our farmers up to the work of producing their own wheat and their own bread upon their own farms. And he said, "Good: that is just what you ought to do, and just what the farmers of Maine ought to do." And as an evidence that our efforts in this direction last year were of some effect, he stated that the farmers of Franklin county had raised nearly wheat enough last season for a year's bread, so that their sales of flour in that county had been very largely reduced over a few years ago. "And this," he continued, "is just right." Of course it is just right! And it is just what we propose to continue doing—pounding away at this matter of producing breadstuff till our farmers become independent of western farmers in this particular. The business house we have mentioned is a most honorable one, its members are men of character and integrity, are all our own friends, and are doing a legitimate business—but we mean just what we say, and say just what we mean, when we say that our business is to do away with theirs by inducing Maine farmers to grow their own breadstuff—and these men are fair enough to say we are doing just right. They will have retired to well earned leisure on abundant fortunes long before the reform we are working for, shall have been accomplished. And it is some satisfaction to know that in one county decided inroads have been made upon their sales in consequence of farmers having raised their own wheat the past year. We hope other counties will wheel into line in this same manner the coming season, and that this good work will go on till not a single dollar of our money goes out of the State for Western flour. THIS IS JUST WHAT WE MEAN!

An Interesting Study.

There have been on exhibition at the State House during the sitting of the present legislature a series of most interesting maps, prepared under the direction of Prof. C. H. Hitchcock, who in 1861-2 had charge of our Scientific Survey, and now chief of the Geological Survey of New Hampshire, showing the physical features of that State and embracing the results obtained by recent explorations and examinations by its geological corps. These maps are nine in number and form a most interesting study. They are each about three by six feet, and are the same, or similar to those exhibited by the State at Philadelphia in 1876, and which received a distinguished prize.

The first is a geological map, showing by different colors all the formations of the underlaying rocks. The second indicates the distribution of forest trees over the State—showing by different coloring the area occupied by different trees, evergreens or deciduous, the regions void of trees (as the summits of the highest mountains,) and by lines, the northern and southern limits of certain species. One map is devoted entirely to showing the entire region covered by forests in 1874. The fourth is devoted to the Fauna of the State, and shows in different groups the Alpine, sub-Alpine, Canadian and Alleghanian classes. The fifth exhibits the contour lines over the whole surface. The sixth shows the annual rain fall—the mean of inches in the several areas being indicated by different colors. The seventh gives the Isothermal lines of temperature, showing the line of equal temperature for both summer and winter, and also for the entire year. The eighth, illustrates the river systems of the State, whereby the districts drained by its nine principal rivers are shown by different colors. The ninth map is, perhaps, the one of greatest interest to farmers, being an agricultural map and showing the different kinds of soil, as sandy plains, interval, beaches and salt marshes, slatey soil, granite soils &c. The mechanical work of these maps is admirable, and their economic value is very great. They show to what a degree the resources, features, conditions, and industries of any given area of territory, may be intelligently indicated by means of colors and other lines or figures; while at the same time they are so accurate—being based upon actual surveys and other data—as to be quite reliable and trustworthy. This plan of showing not only the physical features of a country, but its industries, relative healthfulness of different sections, density of population, intelligence, &c., is being largely employed at present, in the publications of the United States, as well as the different States, and was notably successful in the magnificent Statistical Atlas issued by the General Government in 1874.

Fertilizers—The Use of Fish Chum.

At the Farmers' Convention at Dennysville held a week or two since, Mr. M. L. Wilder, a former member of the Board of Agriculture, and a thoughtful and understanding farmer, made an interesting statement regarding his experiences with the use of fertilizers, from which we make the following extract:—

"Fifteen or twenty years ago my farm only cut about eighteen or twenty tons of hay, and I thought it was doing pretty well at that; but I came to believe that it ought to do better, so I went to work on it gathering up all the manures I could, composts, superphosphates and fish pomace, which I applied to my farm, and now it cuts from seventy-five to one hundred tons, the last year I think about eighty tons. I have strong faith in liquid manures. As an experiment I took some of the water from the boiler where I had been boiling herring for pomace, and put it in a hogshead and loaded the hogshead on a cart; after boring holes around the chime I drove it over a piece of grass and was surprised at the improvement in the crop at haying time.

Now I am not sure that it would not pay every farmer in this country to build a cistern under his barn and save every drop of liquid manure and apply it to his lands as a top dressing. Of all the different kinds of fertilizers that I have tried, next to barn manure, I prefer fish pomace. I never derived any benefits from the use of superphosphates. When pomace is applied as a dressing for grain crops it should be harrowed in, so that it will become thoroughly incorporated with the soil. I prefer to keep my mowing lands in good condition by top dressing, and all manures used for top dressing should be pulverized as fine as possible in order to obtain the most benefit from it."

Editorial Notes.

The report of the Farmers' Convention which occurs at Warren this week, will be published in our next issue.

A private letter from Prof. M. C. Fernald of the State College, informs us that at the opening of the spring term on Tuesday of last week, fifteen new students were accepted, thus making a Freshman class of fifty-one.

We noticed near the Maine Central station at West Falmouth last week, that farmers were engaged in distributing muscle bed upon grass lands to be spread as a top dressing in the spring. We were informed that the use of this material as a top dressing was increasing in that section, and that it was followed by the best results. The pleasant weather of the present winter and the small amount of snow on the ground is very favorable to the work.

We have received through our agent, Mr. S. N. Taber, samples of glue, and of flint paper manufactured by Benj. Tenney, Farmingdale. When in full working force about 5,000 sheets of glue are manufactured daily, and some 500 barrels represents the yearly product. The paper is the only thing of its kind made in the State, the feldspar used being from Topsham, carried to Massachusetts and crushed and then brought back for making an excellent kind of sand or flint paper for carpenters' use. It is a home industry of much importance, and we hope may be encouraged by all who have occasion to use the article in question.

The twenty-second annual report of the Maine Board of Agriculture was presented to the Legislature on Friday of last week. It is a volume of 275 pages, printed from new and handsome type and contains four plates. The contents embrace the papers presented at the annual session of the Board at Newport, relating to the culture of Indian Corn, and at the semi-annual meeting relating to Manures; together with several other lectures and papers on important and timely topics. Indeed, we doubt if two more necessary subjects to Maine agriculture have ever been so thoroughly discussed by the Board, as the leading subjects above mentioned. The report is provided with a good index.

Communications.

For the Maine Farmer.

The English Sparrows.

The so-called English sparrows which have been for some years carefully cherished and greatly petted in the cities of several of our Atlantic States, are rapidly losing favor with those who take pains to study their character and habits. Habitual readers of the Boston *Advertiser* for the last two or three years must have noticed in that paper more and more frequent communications from careful observers, in which the sparrows have been denounced as a nuisance that ought to be at once abated, before it is too late. The matter does not yet practically concern the people of Maine, but it may within a few years force itself upon their attention.

At a meeting of the Nuttall Ornithological Club of Cambridge, held on the evening of Jan. 28th, there were presented by several well known ornithologists of this vicinity, in accordance with previous invitation, the results of their personal observations relating to the habits and modes of life of the English sparrows. The principal speaker was Mr. J. A. Allen, ornithologist of the Museum of Comparative Zoology, and a leading American authority in his department. Besides rendering his own testimony in the case, he read letters from Robert Ridgway of the Smithsonian Institution, and Dr. C. C. Abbott of Trenton, N. J., stating the consequences that have followed from the introduction of these birds into Washington and Trenton. Mr. Roo-evelt of New York made a verbal statement of the results of their spread beyond the limits of New York and Brooklyn into the contiguous rural districts.

The conclusions arrived at by the meeting, and the data upon which they were based, will shortly be printed in detail, with the hope of turning public attention to the subject considered, but a more general statement of the case, meanwhile, may not be without interest to the readers of the MAINE FARMER.

In the very full and fair discussion that followed the presentation of facts, it was noticeable that every speaker had in the beginning of his acquaintance with the sparrows, been prepossessed greatly in their favor. The one indisputable fact that they speedily quelled the worms that for years had stripped of their foliage the trees of New York and Brooklyn, proved a passport of welcome to the birds into other cities. In 1869, twenty-seven pairs of sparrows, at the cost of five dollars a pair, were brought from England, and set loose in Boston common. From these twenty-seven pairs have sprung, in eight years, a progeny numerous enough to stock parts of every village within twelve miles or more of Boston, and already they are beginning to spread over the neighboring farms. At the close of the meeting a vote taken to test the views of members of the club, after their careful consideration of the evidence presented, showed an unanimous verdict in condemnation of the English sparrows, as already a pest, and destined to become exceedingly destructive, should their present rapid increase continue for a few more years unchecked. Our limits will permit only the briefest statement of some of the capital charges brought against these new comers.

1st. It is found wherever the sparrows have become established, they are annually driving out more and more completely our most valued native birds. This fact was first noticed in respect to the blue-bird, the wren and the white-bellied swallow, all of which seek holes in trees and buildings for nesting, but are ready to take advantage of such shelters as are generally provided for the sparrows. While the latter are few in any place, they share the boxes amicably with the birds above named, but as they multiply they become intolerant of other species. Since they do not migrate, but remain in the same locality throughout the year, and since they begin to nest sometimes as early as February, before any of our migratory birds return to us, the bird-boxes are preoccupied by the sparrows; and when the blue bird, wren and white-bellied swallow arrive, they find themselves not only excluded from the boxes, but mobbed away from their old places of refuge in neighboring trees and roofs. And it is not these smaller birds alone that are being thus banished from our villages. Even the swift and spirited purple martin finds on his arrival in spring that the box of which he was formerly unchallenged proprietor, is filled with the "courageous, impudent and quarrelsome sparrows," as an English writer styles them; and respecting the claim given by "possession," the martin quits his old home to seek one not yet made uncomfortable by invaders. In the Common and Public Garden of Boston it is certain that year by year in about the same ratio that the sparrows have increased in numbers, the native birds above mentioned, the oriole, the vireos, and the many other species that used to delight the eye and ear of the citizens, have diminished, while some have almost disappeared. The robin holds his own better than any other species, but a case observed in the rear of the Museum last summer shows what may be expected when the sparrows become still more numerous. Two dead trees were trimmed of their branches in 1875, and about the tops of the trunks clusters of bird-houses were placed as shelters for such species as might choose to occupy them. In the spring of 1877 the sparrows had dispossessed the last of the native birds that had sought their covert, and fi-lt themselves masters of the situation. On an elm between the two dead trees a pair of unwary robins built their nest and laid their eggs, but were so persecuted by the pugnacious sparrows, that about hatching-time they forsook the nest.

2d. The sparrows have been seen repeatedly to destroy the eggs and young of other birds by blows with their bills. One instance was observed in Cambridge where a pair of white-bellied swallows nested in a box not far from boxes occupied by sparrows. After the swall ws had hatched their eggs, the sparrows perched upon the roof of the swallows' box, in the absence of the parents, and prevented them from entering until the young were starved.

3d. Wherever the English sparrows have become abundant, it is found that they make foraging expeditions in flocks, from the cities and villages which they prefer for abodes, into the grain fields of the surrounding farms. This is but their usual practice in their original homes. We call the species the "English" sparrow, but the term is a misnomer. The bird is found in fact throughout most parts of the old world, ranging from England through France, Italy and Egypt to India and beyond. In all these countries it is known as chiefly a vegetable feeder.

Where it is most numerous it is so destructive to grain crops that means have to be devised to keep its ravages within bounds. In some districts guards are set to drive the devourers from the fields; in others the peasants are obliged, under penalty, to bring annually to the officials a certain number of sparrows' heads. At the club meeting it was said that a small patch of grain in Watertown, near Mount Auburn Cemetery, was last summer completely harvested by the sparrows, while the canker-worms in the adjacent orchards were left unmolested. A letter was read from Dr. Dixwell of Jamaica Plain, in which he testified that he shot last year, at several times, thirty-nine sparrows that were tenants of boxes placed in trees swarming with the canker worms, and that in the crops of none of them was found any trace of animal diet—all were gorged with vegetable food. All the evidence went to show that the sparrows prefer grain to any other kind of food, and one can readily believe this who has noticed the eagerness with which these birds glean from the horse-dung in the streets the kernels of grain that have escaped digestion. Early in the season, before the heads of grain are filled, the sparrows glut themselves with tender buds, especially of fruit trees. Next they take the green peas, sometimes leaving not a sample to the owners; then they levy upon the small fruits of the gardens, and when these are gone the birds are in good trim for the grain harvest.

4th. In the region about Boston, the sparrows fail to compensate for the evil they commit. The worst devourer of foliage here is the canker-worm which strips most of the elms and apple trees that are not in some way protected. If an elm has in its branches several houses occupied by sparrows, the parent birds are sometimes found to feed their young with the worms, and to afford tolerable protection to the foliage; but in other cases the residence of many sparrows in a tree seems to have little effect toward keeping the worms in check, while adjacent trees, not at all or scantily furnished with bird-houses, are always stripped of their leaves. Thus it happens, even in those parts of Cambridge where the sparrows are most numerous, that no one relies upon the birds for security against the canker-worms, but on every street the elms, and in the outskirts of the city the apple trees, are guarded by metallic troughs filled with oil, or more generally, by bands of tarred paper smeared with printers' ink. These devices are quite effectual, if properly attended to while the sparrows, however numerous they may become, do not promise to be equally efficient. In Cambridge and elsewhere some streets and limited areas are for years left free from the canker-worms, when at the same time other streets and areas close by may swarm with them. One of these favored spots is Boston Common, where canker-worms have never been abundant, and where for years the most troublesome devourer has been the hairy white-tufted caterpillar, the larva of the moth, *Orygia* leucostigma. No birds except owls and cuckoos eat hairy larva, hence the sparrows afford no protection against them. While, therefore, these birds have freed New York from insect larva that chance to suit them as food, but of whose species it is difficult to get exact information, in this vicinity they give but partial immunity from any species and none whatever from some others.

The bird that shows all this capacity for mischief is one of the most prolific species that exists, often rearing four broods in a season. At the rate at which it is multiplying wherever it has been introduced, it is probable that it will shortly become a scourge to the land. We shall have present at all times of the year swarms of hungry birds capable of working such havoc through the whole season as is wrought for a few weeks in the rice fields of the South by the countless flocks of migrating bobolinks, there known as rice-birds. And if the evil comes in its full magnitude, it will not be without warning, for European naturalist kindly told us in the outset that we were importing a pest.

Such substantially are the results arrived at by a full meeting of careful observers. It is possible, of course that the charges against the sparrows may not all be sustained by further observations, and that the apprehensions here expressed may prove to be exaggerated. But at all events, will it not be well to defer for a time any attempts to introduce these birds into Maine? They are certainly unattractive to the eye and destitute of song incessant, noisy and intolerable chatterers rather, unworthy, surely, to replace our harmless, beautiful and musical native species. The same care to provide artificial shelter for the wren and bluebird, that has been lavished upon the sparrows, would undoubtedly increase largely the numbers of these two species, both of which are pleasant warblers, strictly insectivorous, and in no wise harmful. Nearly all our singing birds seek the vicinity of human habitations for protection against predacious species. In a wilderness few songsters are seen or heard. If kindly treated they will rapidly multiply, and in time will do very much to free us from our worst insect enemies. Why not develope fully the usefulness of our home species, before doing more to spread over the country these foreign birds of—to say the least—dubious qualities? C. E. H.

Cambridge, Mass.

For the Maine Farmer.

Maine Pomological Society.

The Fifth Annual Winter Meeting of the Maine State Pomological Society, will be held at Winthrop, (Kennebec County) a locality the most celebrated in the history of fruit culture in Maine, February 27th and 28th, and March 1st, 1878.

The citizens of Winthrop and vicinity have taken a deep interest in the arrangements, giving the assurance of a large local attendance and the best possible facilities for an interesting and profitable meeting; and it is hoped that the fruit growers and horticulturists of the State will respond by a full and general attendance.

The usual winter exhibition of fruit will be held during the sessions, to which all are invited to contribute, especially of new or rare varieties, seedlings of promise, varieties for identification, &c. We have reason to expect that the usual liberal reduction of fares will be made by Maine Central and other railroads, and that arrangements will be made for the entertainment of visitors at very moderate cost. Persons who receive this programme are invited to look over the topics presented, and to be prepared to say a word on some one or more of them, or if unable to attend to communicate the same in writing.

Programme.

Public Sessions, Wednesday, 27th, 6 1-2 P. M.; to be opened by an address of welcome by B. C. Torsey, Esq., of Winthrop, followed by reply to the same and annual address of the President. Thursday 28th, 10 A. M. and 6 P. M. During the several sessions the following subjects will be presented, and each will be open for discussion after its presentation by the persons designated, viz: "Planting an Orchard," essay by Dr. N. T. True of Bethel; "The Nursery Business in Maine," by Z. A. Gilbert; The "Russian Apple Business," by Granville Fernald, Esq., of Harrison; "Crab Apples," by Dr. H. Reynolds, agricultural editor of the Lewiston Journal.

Discussion. "What means are available, if any, to permanently restore the productiveness of our Orchards?" (To be assigned) "Farmers' Gardens," "Forestry," "Ferns and Ferneries," "Floriculture." (To be assigned.) Observations on the meeting of the American Pomological Society at Baltimore expected. Report on Correspondence and Exchanges, by the Secretary. County and Local Reports on fruit growing and on the fruit capabilities of the several sections, by the several Trustees and others. Revision of the Society's Fruit Lists. Voluntary Essays and Reports, by members and others. There will be a Question Box for the reception of questions and subjects for discussion. The public exercises will close with a social reunion of the members and guests, with ladies, at 8 o'clock P. M.

Business meetings Thursday and Friday, 9 A. M. Meeting of the Executive Committee, Wednesday, 4 P. M., and from time to time during the session.

Z A. GILBERT, *President.*
GEO. B. SAWYER, *Secretary.*

For the Maine Farmer.

An Idea on Protecting Trees from Insects.

Last spring as I placed the bug boxes over my early cucumbers, I thought the same screen cloth would protect my currant bushes—so taking a piece of cloth I wrapped it around a currant bush tying it near the ground, and it went through the season without the least damage, while all my other bushes were stripped of their leaves. At the same time I also wrapped the cloth around the blossoms on an apple tree, and I was paid for my trouble in a large Bailey Sweet,—while the balance of the apples on the tree were all worm eaten and dropped off worthless. Now can we not cover up some of our pet trees and save the fruit—as the coddling moth is so numerous that they do not share with us but take the whole crop? Mr. Joseph Taylor in showing me his specimens of fruit at the fair at Waterville stated they were most all damaged, and that he could not control the moth. Some say "put printer's ink in the crotch of trees and it will drive the millers off"—but as I stood at sunset among my trees I could see a bungling miller of drab color, flying from blossom to blossom, intent only to strike them all, and I think smoke must be very powerful that would drive them away. I. S. MCFARLAND.

Fairfield.

For the Maine Farmer.

Notes from Knox County.

The valley of the St. George river including parts of St. George, Cushing, Thomaston, Warren, Union, Appleton and Searsmont, is one of the best farming sections in the State. On the river are considerable quantities of interval with upland on either side well adapted to general farming.

A pleasant dinner hour was spent with Mr. S. Bisbee of Warren, eighty-two years old, who still has faith in Maine farming, and is probably the oldest subscriber to the FARMER in town, having had it nearly or quite forty years. He has been on the farm where he now lives some thirty years, having generally raised corn for sale, and formerly wheat for his own use. He considers corn a sure and paying crop, thinks he has raised as high as 100 bushels per acre. I was here shown a glass punch bowl belonging in the family which was brought from the "Mother Country" in the May Flower. The effect of flowers and ornamental work in making home pleasant is not lost sight of in this family.

Alexander Spear of Warren is one of the largest farmers in the county, and in wheat raising is at the head of the list, so far as I have heard, his crop the past year having been one hundred bushels. He is wintering fourteen cattle, eight horses, twenty-five sheep, and some ten or fifteen hogs. He killed one recently that dressed 528 lbs. He uses a large quantity of muck to give employment to his working hogs. Mr. S. raises cabbages, garden sauce and green corn for Thomaston and Rockland markets. The past season he had an acre of sweet corn, raised about ten tons of cabbages and three hundred bushels of turnips and beets—some 125 bushels being table beets.

L. S. Robinson of Warren for some years past has had a small herd of Jerseys, having at the present time seven thoroughbred animals. He has a four year old cow that he bought of E. K. Whitney of Harrison, when a yearling, that has had three heifer calves, one of which was sold for $75 when one year old, just what the mother cost at the same age. This cow from Mr. W.'s herd has not yet got quite up to what some of Mr. Robinson's cows have done, though she has a record already of two pounds of butter per day.

Seth Andrews has some fine thoroughbred Jerseys, mostly young, a part of which he got from Winthrop the past season. Mr. A. last year raised about fifty bushels of wheat on his farm near Warren Village.

Albert Vaughan, one of the enterprising young farmers of Warren, some three since started a herd of Ayrshires from the stock of the Messrs. Dane. He now has some eight or ten head of fine looking animals. A pleasant, though hurried chat was enjoyed with E. W. Anderson of Warren, who believes most thoroughly in Maine and Maine farming, and is giving all the energy and enthusiasm of his nature to the business. He is wintering seventeen cattle, four horses, twenty-five grade Cotswold sheep and seven Berkshire swine. He has for some years past been using a thoroughbred Durham bull of the Percival stock which has proved to be a very good stock-getter. His Berkshires are fine sp cimens of that favorite breed. Mr. A. is quite a fowl fancier, being a breeder of Pekin ducks, Light Brahmas, Plymouth Rock, Brown and White Leghorn, Spangle Game and Bantam fowles, also bronze turkeys of which he has quite a number, and I think the best lot I have ever seen, weighing from twenty to thirty pounds each. One year ago last summer he built one of the best barns in the county, 100 by 40 feet with cellar under the whole, by means of which he thinks it practicable to double the value of his manure heap. He had the past season eight acres of hoed crops, raising some 700 bushels of roots, most of which he is feeding to his stock. His corn was very good, notwithstanding the fact that he raised quite a quantity of beans and some ten ton of pumpkins. Since seeing Mr. Anderson I understood that he used the Stockbridge Fertilizer. With the permission of the Editor, will he not give the results of his experiments with the same for the benefit of a multitude of the readers of the FARMER? C. S. A.

For the Maine Farmer.

A Word for the Jerseys.

I did not think of writing a word this week, but the message from Anson signed S. W. Tinkham, has brought me to my thoughts. First he says, "The Durham or grade Durham cow is better and by far more profitable than the Jersey, because she raises a calf worth from $10 to $25 and will make from 7 to 14 lbs. of butter per week, if well fed." And further "that good farmers give it as their opinion that the introduction of the Jersey stock into Maine is not less than $100,000 damage to the stock-growing interests of the State."

Did those "good farmers" ever try the Jersey cow and give her a fair chance? I presume they never owned a good Jersey or a grade Jersey. What does Maine raise stock for? Certainly not for beef alone, for no man can obtain a new dollar for an old one in that way; but our profit comes by raising cows and oxen. The latter by working on the farm or lumbering till six or eight years old pay their way, and are either sold for working oxen or beef. In this they leave something in the hands of the producers; but by estimating the cost of raising the profit is small. How is it with the cow? She is only to be kept till two years old when she begins to pay not only the cost of keeping but a good round profit—all the way from $20 to $50 per annum.

Now for the breed. Mr. T. makes the Durham average 10 1-2 lbs. of butter per week; which in this State is not over 8 lbs.—while the Jersey averages 15 pounds which will sell for about 4 cents per pound above that of the Durham; and 4 1-2 lbs. more per week, which in six months (26 weeks) gives 104 lbs., amounting to $26; and the 4 cents above the other amounting to $4.16—a total gain or balance in her favor of $30.16. The Jersey cow will make about the same number of pounds of cheese as the Durham, which is worth in market about one dollar per hundred pounds more than the cheese made from the milk of any other cows we have. Much more could be said in favor of the Jersey. I have only dropped these items hoping and expecting to hear from others that are much more competent to treat the subject; but I could not keep quiet and see my friends the Jerseys so badly abused. SEWARD DILL.

Phillips.

For the Maine Farmer.

Thoughts on Associated Dairying.

Both of the cheese factories in this county have done a fair business the past year. The factory at East Sangerville has manufactured about twelve tons of first-rate cheese, and the price of cheese has been well sustained here, being now thirteen cents a pound. Butter is from twenty to twenty-two cents. I notice that in one place in this State there has been a movement made to convert their cheese factory into some other manufacturing business. This is probably owing to that peculiar trait in the character of our people caused by getting their expectations raised to a high pitch only to be disappointed. If we build fabulous castles in the air, using little reasoning with ourselves it must inevitably convince us that they must fall. The farmers' gains are usually slow. One farmer that has but two or three cows, and these perhaps of an inferior quality and what milk he gets from his cows the most of it is sent to the factory. He gets but small returns from his milk, is disappointed and says cheese factories are a failure. On the other hand the farmer who has twelve or fifteen good cows well fed and well cared for, and sends his milk to cheese factory, will in nine cases out of ten, tell you that he gets more money from the products of his cows than he did previous to sending his milk to the factory. Reactions are liable to take place in almost all kin ls of business. I am satisfied that associated dairying has benefitted the farmers in other States, and must inevitably be beneficial to the farmers of Maine. Our State possesses all the facilities necessary to become one of the best dairying States in the Union. Our soil is better adapted to growing different kinds of grasses than any other State in our Union, Kentucky alone excepted. We can grow different kinds of roots, such as beets, turnips, &c., as well in Maine as in any other State. It is my opinion if our farmers would pay a little more attention to growing different kinds of roots, for feeding to their stock during the time that they are at the barn, a large amount would be saved in hay and provender, and the general health of our stock would be kept up to a better standard. D. SPOONER.

East Sangerville.

For the Maine Farmer.

Notes from Henry Poor.

The readers of your excellent paper have reason to rejoice in the general exuberance of farm news which it contains. It is the more readable from the fact that so many farmers have taken it upon themselves to report their own crops, stock, swine, sheep, &c., making it evident that Maine is to be the banner State, assuring the emigrant that no State in the Union offers superior advantages.

A relative of mine from Portland—now in San Francisco writes to me thus:—"I should advise farmers at the East not to come to California—they are far better off where they are." Their season of drought told on them fearfully last year and we may believe many exaggerated stories of the past—may be now taken with grains of allowance in regard to their general crops.

It is probable the open fall permitted a large breadth of plowing, and that your farmers will put in their spring wheat early. The article on clover by E. E Parkhurst is worth remembering, not only for plowing in for winter wheat, but as a fertilizer for laying down to grass, &c.

Why not raise more wool in Maine? It is always a cash article, and a quarter of lamb is handy in summer and a carcass of mutton in winter. It is supposed there is a dog law p. otection.

Your splendid corn reports will lead to a large increase and then you will be prepared for the porkers and beeves, and can always have a relish of mush and milk without having to send two or three thousand miles for the luxury. Your dairying bounds ahead fairly, but from the figures given I judge many do not show their hand.

This is a bold thrust on the pasturing—probably much of it is so short, that poor old moolly cow may have to struggle to keep herself in cud. Milk for the dairy cannot be expected from such a source.

The pasture is the great feeding ground: let it be rich in clover and other sweet grasses, and your dairies will never languish; your cows will fatten and give abundance of milk; your oxen will make beef outside the stall; the calves and colts will grow rapidly and fatten. Their droppings would greatly add to the fertility of the small pasture, and herein is every object accomplished with very little cost. In winter, with proper feeding, your barns are full of fat cattle and horses, and if for sale, will fetch nearly double price over poor stock, and if fed on something better than sour meadow hay, butts of straw, their manure is worth double in value, which tells at planting time and on the crops that succeed.

I venture to assert, that this economical, high state of thrift will yet be verified by the masses of New England farmers. If they would pause and consider well the multiplied objects and benefits to be gained, could they falter for a moment? If you adopt this method of high summer feeding or grazing, why are you not fair competitors of the far West, who now drive their cattle such long distances for a market? [We are: and one of these days Maine farmers are again going to send good beeves to the Boston market;—and do it as a business, too. Remember our prediction.—ED.]

Brooklyn, L. I. HENRY POOR.

For the Maine Farmer.

Crab-Stocks and Russian Apples.

I read the letter of Mr. Smith of Monmouth in the last FARMER with much interest, and I wish to enforce what he says of the "crab-stock humbug" with my own experience. It has got so in Vermont that a tree agent says "crab-stocks" to one of our fruit-growers almost at the risk of his neck. And now, as I judge from numerous letters of enquiry which I receive, these pedlars, finding no market at home for their trees, are flooding over into New Hampshire, Maine and New Brunswick in crowds, and defrauding many honest men with their plausible talk.

Let me say to your readers that the crab-stock has had a thorough trial in the northern part of Vermont running over a period of nearly twenty years, and that the only result is utter failure. So far as I am informed (and I have probably as good a chance to know as any man) there is not, from the tens of thousands of crab-grafted trees sold through the country where I live, one single really successful orchard. The trees begin to fall almost as soon as they come to bearing, and excepting a few cases where, by deep planting, the trees have rooted above the graft, they rapidly become unthrifty and die. The experience is very nearly that of pears on the quince, only the failure is worse. In many cases not only is the tree unhealthy, but the fruit seems to partake of the crabby nature of the stock to the extent of being uneatable and unsalable.

One point in Mr. Smith's letter, however, needs a little correction. Twelve years ago I believed, like him, that the Northern Spy, Tolman's Sweet, Yellow Bellflower and the Winthrop seedlings Moses Wood and Fairbanks, were as hardy as the Russian apples, Duchess of Oldenburg, Tetofsky and Alexander. This belief has been a costly one for me, and will be so to all your readers living in Northern Maine who accept it. I set dozens of those "hardy Maine apples" and they are all dead or dying, while my orchard of Tetofsky and Duchess are thrifty, productive and profitable. Yet I do not advise the setting of Russian apples in Kennebec county, or anywhere where the Winthrop Greening, Moses Wood or Fairbanks will succeed. These last named are unquestionably better in quality than any Russian yet known. But for the Aroostook region, and all similar local

Maine Farmer.

Augusta, February 23, 1878.

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Collectors' Notices.

Mr. C. S. AYER will call upon our subscribers in Lincoln county during the month of February.

Mr. S. N. TABER will call upon our subscribers in East Kennebec during the month of February.

Mr. J. P. CLARK will call upon our subscribers in Waldo County during the present month.

Another View of the Suiject.

We have often heard the remark made more especially by elderly people, that the baneful effects of intoxicating beverages upon the human system and upon society in modern times, is largely due to the bad qualities of the liquors sold. These same persons tell us that when they were young, liquors were freely drank by almost everybody, and with little or no bad results. This view of the matter is generally accepted, and is sustained by many able writers who tell us that nearly all of the wines, brandies and other liquors which are now offered for sale are adulterated with poisonous drugs. Temperance lecturers frequently emphasize their remarks by alluding t the adulteration of liquors and the terrible effects of the substances used in these adulterations, upon the public health. They tell us that what we buy for brandy, gin or wine, is only alcohol and water colored with some foreign substance and flavored to resemble the particular kind of liquor it is designed to represent, and that the ingredients used are highly poisonous. We have also been made to believe that the cheaper liquors dispensed at the low grog shops are more heavily adulterated than those sold at more respectable saloons and by druggists, and are therefore much more injurious.

Professor Chandler, president of the New York board of health and an accomplished chemist, takes an entirely different view from this. In the excise bill which was recently before the New York legislature, there was a clause which recognized this popular notion that most liquors are adulterated, and that such liquors are more baneful in their effects upon the drinker than pure liquors, and which provided that a standard of purity should be established by the board of health, and that all liquors offered for sale should come up to this standard. This brought out a letter from Professor Chandler who says that such a plan is utterly impracticable, because it is the alcohol which does all the mischief and that no standard of purity could exclude that. He admits that most of the liquors offered for sale are manufactured, but he says the chemist can detect no difference between these and pure distilled liquors. He says he has analyzed over four hundred samples of liquor sold in the lowest groggeries of New York city, and found nothing in them but what could be found in brandy, gin and wine which are called pure. He says there is no motive or good reason for using ingredients in the adulteration of liquors any more poisonous than alcohol itself, because alcohol is much cheaper than any imitation of it can be.

Prof. Chandler says the recipe in common use, for the manufacture of imitation cognac brandy, is as follows: To forty gallons of distilled spirits free from odor and diluted with the same amount of distilled water, add one-sixth of an ounce of cognac oil which is distilled from grapes, one and one-half pints of burnt sugar coloring and one-fourth of an ounce of tannin The cost of this beverage is $1.25 cents per gallon and it sells at from $10 to $25 per gallon. A careful analysis, he says, shows no difference between this and pure cognac brandy, and no chemist could tell the difference. The tannin is added to represent the flavor given by the cask, and the burnt sugar merely for the sake of coloring. The Professor adds: "You see there is no injurious element in this manufactured brandy that is not found in the genuine article Alcohol is the poison that works the mischief to drinkers, and alcohol is the basis of all wines and liquors."

THE SILVER BILL. After an all night session the Senate Saturday morning passed an amended form of the Bland silver bill by a vote of 48 to 21. The bill as passed provides that a silver dollar of 412 1-2 grains shall be coined, which shall be legal tender, and that the Secretary of the Treasury shall purchase not less than $2,000,000 nor more than $4,000,000 per month of silver bullion, which shall be coined into dollars of the above weight. The free coinage provision of the Bland bill is stricken out, and the only other important amendment is that which provides that the holder of silver coin may deposit the same with the Treasurer or any Assistant Treasurer of the United States in sums not less than $10 and receive therefor certificates of the same amount, but corresponding with the denominations of United States notes. This amendment is to obviate the use of the cumbersome silver currency in business operations.

The bill went to the House and was tabled and ordered printed with the amendments. There will probably be a long debate on the Senate amendments, and it may be a fortnight before the House passes upon it.

☞Diphtheria seems to be prevailing in other states as well as in Maine. At Virgennes, Vt., Henry F. Foss, formerly of Fairfield, Me., recently lost four of his five children, and Antoine Labelle, a poor man with ten children, who recently moved from Crown Point, N. Y., has lost two out of his flock, while others are sick, and if the terrible disease follows its usual course he will soon be without a family. In Addison two brothers named Barrow have lost a child apiece, and the rest are attacked with the same malady. About 30 cases are reported from Bristol, a majority of which have proved fatal.

CITY NEWS AND GOSSIP. Rev. Mr. Sanderson of Waterville supplied the pulpit of the Methodist church Sunday.——At the semi-annual election for officers of the Reform Club, held last Monday evening the following persons were chosen as officers for the ensuing term: President, B. F. Gaslin; Vice Presidents, Thomas Rideout, Reuben McKenney, Jno. O. Dunbar; Recording Secretary, N. B. Lane; Corresponding Secretary, J. I Woodbury; Chaplain, S. M. Swett; Treasurer, F. W. Kinsman; Financial Secretary, W. S. Hodges.——Mrs. G. W. Dill is canvassing for subscribers to "The Temperance Reform and its Great Reformers."——The Hallowell *Register* prints the names of those who attended the masquerade ball in that city last week, and in the list are the names of quite a number of Augusta people.——Rev. C. F. Penney has married three hundred couples; wonder how many of them the courts have unmarried.——Moulton cut up a nice frozen salmon for his customers, Saturday.——The Unitarians were highly successful in their entertainments Thursday and Friday evenings. The Burlesque Operetta "Cinderella," drew a large number, and the second evening the house was filled. The stage performers acquitted themselves much to their credit. The entertainment was one of the best of the season.——Messrs. Hill and Hoyt grocers and provision dealers have moved to the wooden store opposite E. C. Allen's publishing house.——P. O. Vickery of Ward 2 declines in advance, to have his name need for any municipal office at the approaching election. He expects to be absent most of the summer.——Hon. Nelson Dingley of the Lewiston *Journal* was in the city Monday.——Mr. John Colburn of the grocery firm of Colburn and Faught has been in continuous business in this city for about 45 years.——Seth Williams Post, G. A. R., is to give an entertainment some time during the next month in aid of the Augusta Soldier's Monument. It will be under the supervision of Mr. E. McMurdie.——Messrs. Fowler, Hamlin and Smith our enterprising dry goods firm, are about to add a carpet department to their already large business. The entire lower floor of their store which is 25 by 60 feet is to be devoted to the display and sale of carpetings of all kinds. This enterprise will supply a want which has long been felt.——John Murphy was found guilty of drunkenness Monday, and Thomas Sullivan of maliciously breaking glass from the court house.——Rev. Dr. Butler addressed the Legislature Tuesday afternoon in favor of a new Insane Hospital.——Mercury eight degrees below zero Tuesday morning. The past week has been very pleasant for the season. The days have been bright and sunny but the nights quite cold.——The Grand Lodge of the Knights of Honor met in this city Wednesday afternoon.——The Dorics of Bowdoin, an amateur dramatic company and said to be the best one that ever performed in the State, will present the three act drama, "Our Boys," at Granite Hall Saturday evening. Tickets are for sale at the Eastern Express office. We trust there may be a full attendance.——Rev. Dr. J. P. Weston will supply the pulpit of the Winthrop street Universalist church next Sunday morning.——The Universalist Ladies' Aid will meet with Mrs. P. O. Vickery on Winthrop street on Thursday evening of this week.

KENNEBEC SUPERIOR COURT. The act creating a Superior Court for the County of Kennebec goes into effect on the first day of March next. It provides among other things that there shall be one justice of the Court who shall establish a seal and that all writs and processes issued by him shall be obeyed and executed throughout the State. The clerk of the Supreme Judicial Court is to be clerk of the Superior Court, with the right to appoint an assistant when both courts are in session at the same time.

Within the County of Kennebec, the Superior Court shall have exclusive appellate jurisdiction of civil appeals from all inferior magistrates in the county; exclusive and original jurisdiction of all bastardy trials and of all civil actions at law not exclusively cognizable by inferior courts, where the damages demanded do not exceed one thousand dollars, except complaints for flowage, real and certain other specified actions.

The court is to be held on the first Tuesday of February and April, second Tuesday of June and first Tuesday of September and December. Travers juries are to be drawn and returned to serve in this court the same as in the Supreme Judicial Court, except that the same jurors may be required by the justice to serve two terms. All actions duly answered to, are to be in order for trial on the next term after their entry. Appeals shall be entered as in the higher court and shall be in order for trial on the first term. When plaintiffs desire a jury trial they shall endorse the same upon their writs. The defendant shall, within fourteen days after entry, file his pleadings, and if the plaintiff has not demanded a jury trial, the defendant shall endorse on his plea a demand for a jury, if he desires one.

Original and appellate jurisdiction in all criminal matters now vested in the Supreme Judicial Court for the county of Kennebec, shall at the end of the October term, be transferred to the Superior Court. Criminal business in the Superior Court, after November next, shall be tried at the December, April and September terms, together with the regular civil business of such terms. Venires for grand jurors to serve in the Superior Court, shall be issued at least forty days before the first Tuesday of September annually. The Law Court sitting for the middle district, is to have jurisdiction of all questions of law originating in the Superior court. It also provides that when any indictment is found for any of the offences described in sections one and two of chapter 117, revised statutes, sections 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 15, 25 and 27 of chap. 118 revised statutes, sections 1, 2 3 of chapter 119 revised statutes, the clerk of the superior court shall certify and transmit the indictment to the Supreme Judicial Court for the county. The Supreme Judicial Court shall have cognizance and jurisdiction thereof.

☞We are indebted to Hon. Fred Atwood of Winterport for a sample of the "Common Sense Chair," manufactured by F. A. Sinclair, Mottville, N. Y. This is a rocker, with maple frame, basket bottom and back, arm and book-rests, substantially made and is a very easy chair to sit in. It is not clumsy, and yet there is timber enough in it to suggest strength and durability. Mr. Atwood has the agency for these chairs in Maine, and as they are not expensive they should find a ready sale.

STATE AFFAIRS. The Governor on Wednesday of last week made the following nominations: Wm. Penn Whitehouse to be Judge of the new Superior Court for the County of Kennebec; H. W. True, Judge of the Augusta Municipal Court, and H. C. Goodenow, Judge of the Police Court at Bangor. He has also designated Col. Frederic Robie of Gorham as one of the honorary Commissioners from Maine to the Paris Exposition.

☞The attention of our readers is called to the advertisement of Chase Bros., Nurserymen, which appears in another column. This is a reliable firm and persons who engage with them will be squarely dealt with. An excellent opportunity is here offered for the right kind of men who are out of work, to find steady and remunerative employment.

☞Mr. J. D. Robbins will sell at auction on Saturday, February 23rd, at his store, a lot of harnesses, blankets, lap-robes, halters, surcingles, whips, curry-combs and horse-blankets.

MAINE LEGISLATURE. In the Senate Wednesday the report of the officers of the Soldiers' Orphan's Home at Bath was referred to the Military Committee. After the morning hour, the Senate resumed the consideration of the Aroostook Senatorial election case, which was discussed the remainder of the forenoon and during the afternoon session, when by a vote of 17 to 12 the Senate refused to substitute the minority for the majority report, and the majority report was accepted without a division. This action continues Mr. Burleigh in his seat. Mr. Madigan, the contestant, was paid mileage and attendance.

The House voted to recede and concur with the Senate in the indefinite postponement of the bill relating to highway taxes. The resolve appropriating $4,000 for building a bridge in Carribou was passed in concurrence. Resolve for a revision of the militia laws was indefinitely postponed. A resolve appropriating $5,000, for the support of the Industrial School for girls was passed. The porgy bill was discussed at great length, when the House by a vote of 65 to 56 voted to substitute the minority for the majority report. The bill was then amended by striking out two miles from the shore and inserting one mile and as amended was passed to be engrossed. Resolve appropriating $12,000 to clothe the militia was indefinitely postponed.

In the Senate Thursday the porgy bill was discussed and tabled. The Senate then discussed an amendment to the Normal school bill by striking out "Gorham" and inserting "North Bridgton," but refused to amend and passed the bill which establishes a Normal School at Gorham, to be engrossed.

In the House resolve in favor of the Maine General Hospital (appropriates $5,000) came up on its passage and Mr. Curran of Calais moved to amend by providing that no part of the appropriations shall be paid over until homœpathics are allowed a ward in the hospital. The whole matter was tabled. The druggist bill came up, the question being on substituting the minority report which gives permission to bring in a bill, for the majority report which gives the petitioners leave to withdraw. A prolonged discussion followed in which both sides of the question were ably presented, when the House by a vote of 117 against 25, refused to substitute and the report granting leave to withdraw was agreed to without a division. Bill to reduce the taxes on deposits in savings banks was discussed and postponed indefinitely. The vote indefinitely postponing the resolve for clothing the militia, was reconsidered and the resolve was tabled and ordered printed.

Friday in the Senate, a communication was received from the Governor, transmitting the resolutions adopted by the United States Senate and House of Representatives upon the occasion of the presentation to Congress, by the State of Maine, of the statue of William King to be deposited in the National Statuary Hall in the capitol of the United States.

Read and the resolve was accepted and spread upon the records. Resolve appropriating $5,000 for the Industrial School was engrossed. The Senate amended the porgy bill by providing that it shall not take effect under one year, and as amended the bill was passed to be engrossed. Bill additional relative to the Boston and Maine Railroad was referred to the next Legislature. The Senate by a vote of 24 to 5 indefinitely postponed bill to repeal the several acts creating the school mill fund. Bill fixing the compensation of Railroad Commissioners was amended by substituting $1,000 for the annual salary, and as amended the bill was passed.

In the House the resolve providing for the appointment of a State Geologist was refused a passage. Mr. Curran, from the Judiciary committee, on order, reported bill an act concerning tramps. [Provides that no person shall go from place to place, in any town of which he is not a resident, begging for food or shelter; nor shall they sleep in any building without the consent of the owner. Also provides for a fine of $20 or not less than 4 months in jail workshop, for first offence, and not less than six for the second.]

A minority report in favor of a State Board of Health was made from the Committee on Legal Affairs and was tabled. Act for a Municipal Court in Farmington was amended by providing that the judge should be an inhabitant of the county of Franklin and learned in the law, and was then passed. The fish and game law was amended and passed. The act for the protection of surgeons against vexatious and expensive lawsuits growing out of their professional services, was indefinitely postponed. Resolve in favor of the State College was discussed till the hour of adjournment.

Saturday the Senate concurred with the House in indefinitely postponing the bill repealing chapter 78 of the laws of 1876, relating to the erection of fish weirs and wharves in tide waters. They refused to concur with the action of the House on the bill giving county commissioners jurisdiction over ways, on bill for reclothing the militia and on resolve for a workshop at the Agricultural college. Bill passed to be engrossed amendatory to the act establishing the Industrial School for Girls; that those committed shall be between the ages of 10 and 15 years; the commitment to be made by probate or municipal judges; the towns or cities where the girls resides to pay from 50 cents to $1 per week toward their board. A resolve was passed proposing questions to the Justices of the Supreme Court whether the Treaty of Washington of 1842 confers the elective franchise upon the naturalized residents of the territory included in the treaty. Passed to be engrossed—Act establishing a Municipal Court in Farmington: act for the protection of game and birds, fixing a close time, an amendment being adopted allowing the sale of game outside of the State at any time; act relating to maintenance of bastard children.

The House indefinitely postponed the act to repeal the acts establishing a school fund and the proposition to make the bridge free over Georges river in Thomaston; refused to concur with the Senate on the Porgie bill and appointed a conference. Passed to be engrossed—Act to prevent the throwing of slabs and other refuse into the Kennebec river and its tributaries; act additional to chapter 49 Revised Statutes, relating to life insurance; resolve appropriating $6,500 for the Agricultural College.

The Senate Monday refused to pass an order providing for a final adjournment Wednesday. The bill with regard to mischievous dogs was amended and passed. On motion of Mr. Phillips the bill for a State board of examiners for teachers was referred to the next Legislature. Bill authorizing county attorneys to attend the terms of the law court was amended by providing that they shall receive no compensation for such extra duties, and as amended was passed. Bill for maintaining a lock in the Kennebec dam was amended by providing that it shall not take effect until the first of June next, and as amended was passed. Bill appropriating $6.500 for the Agricultural College was passed in concurrence.

In the House the bill relating to paupers which had passed the Senate, was postponed indefinitely. Resolve authorizing the Attorney General to inquire into the management of the Industrial School for Girls, shared the same fate. The fish and game bill came back from the Senate amended and was tabled. Bill providing for a court of insolvency was discussed at some length and passed. Several committees of conference were appointed on disagreeing votes between the House and Senate.

In the Senate Tuesday several final reports were made and the Committees discharged. An order was passed for final adjournment on Thursday. A resolve was referred looking to an investigation into voting lists of certain towns and plantations in Aroostook county. Upon the bill for the protection of shore fisheries (porgy bill) the conference committee reported that the House should recede and concur.

In the House several members were excused from further attendance. A bill was passed authorizing Brunswick to fund its debts and issue bonds. Most of the session was occupied by Mr. Moore of Thomaston in the discussion of the Georges river bridge bill. The House refused to indefinitely postpone and the bill was passed. The Legislature will adjourn Thursday or Friday of this week and in our next issue we shall give the closing proceedings.

☞We regret to hear that the Webster mansion at Marshfield, Mass., was destroyed by fire on Thursday week. The farm upon which the house stood was purchased by Mr. Webster of Capt. John Thomas forty-nine year ago. When Mr. Webster purchased the place the house which was built somewhere about 1720, was square, but Mr. Webster made many additions to accommodate his friends, who in the earlier days of his residence came so unexpectedly that they were quartered among the neighbors at night. The rooms were sufficiently capacious to admit of that generous hospitality which marked the domestic life of the great statesman. The house was formerly adorned with handsome engravings, mostly portraits, and the library was enriched by many presentation volumes. For several years the house was occupied by Mrs. Fletcher Webster, and subsequently it was let to private parties and many of the most valuable mementoes of Mr. Webster were removed. Mr. Webster occupied the house until his death which occurred in 1852.

At the time of the fire there were present in the house Mrs. Fletcher Webster, her son Ashburton Webster, Miss Cowing, a friend of the family, and four servants, two men and two women. The house contained eighteen rooms on the first floor, fourteen on the second floor and six on the third, in all thirty-eight rooms. In the library were portraits of Lord Ashburnham and Mr. Webster, painted by Healey; a handsome portrait of Mrs. Fletcher Webster at the age of 30; a marble bust of Pope Pius IX; about one-third of the library of the great statesman, including valuable black letter books and many volumes presented to Mr. Webster by their authors. In the hall were hung engraved likenesses of Melbourne, Wellington, Burke and other English statesmen; a portrait of Queen Victoria; miniatures of the children of Mr. Webster; a scaglio table presented to him by King Bomba. The house also contained a set of Sevres ware once owned by Louis Philippe; a part of the "Rush silver," two-thirds of which was presented by the late Mr. Harvey to the Somerset Club, all the wedding presents of a granddaughter of Mr. Webster, valued at $10,000, on which there was no insurance. The pictures and silver were insured for about $3000 and the total insurance was between $10,000 and $15,000. Mrs. Fletcher Webster has devoted the last twenty years of her life in keeping up the old place for which she had a great veneration, and expended the greater portion of her income in its preservation. This disaster falls with crushing weight upon the descendants of the great statesman. After the fire Mrs. Webster was received as the guest of Miss Adelaide Phillips, whose place of residence is near the old homestead.

ADJUTANT GENERAL'S REPORT. Gen. J. P. Cilley, Adjutant General of Maine has published his annual report to the Legislature. The total number of officers and enlisted men of the First Regiment of Volunteer Militia, is 873, and of High School Cadets 131.

Ordnance stores, including one Gatlin gun and carriage, have been received from the U. S. Chief of Ordnance to the value of $10-697.10 and there is also due the State $7,-111.59. In accordance with an order of the Governor and Council, organizations of veterans of the war of 1861, are supplied with old army muskets and equipments at the very low price of $1.50 per set. The Douty Veterans of Dover, have been supplied, and other companies are negotiating for the same.

The following are the militia expenditures of the past year.

Uniforms—Montgomery Guards and Richards Light Infantry, $2,615.67; Salary of keeper and arsenal expenses, $275 94; Camp and garrison equipage purchased, $265.91; Expenses of muster and other bills, $7,142.-14; Balance, .37. Total, $10.300 00.

Historical memoranda of the war of 1861 have been collected and recorded, amounting to some 600 pages, in accordance with a resolve of 1876. The veterans of the State are urged to contribute all diaries, letters or any material that may aid regimental histories or preserve the facts and incidents of the war by forwarding such data to the office of the Adjutant General for that purpose.

The whole amount disbursed for State Pensions the past year is $23.658, as follows: To invalids, 355; widows, 257; fathers, 13; mothers, 135; sisters, 4; guardians of orphan children, 10; guardians of adult persons, 13. Total number allowed, 687.

☞Col. Robie, Representative from Gorham advocated the resolve making the usual appropriations for the State College of agriculture and mechanical arts. He read the following extract from a recent speech by Senator Hamlin delivered on an entirely different occasion and subject, but the words were so timely that he made them the text for extended remarks.

"Intelligent manual labor is a school in which men attain an energy of purpose and a capacity to encounter and overcome obstacles which are in many respects more valuable than all the learning of the schools. Labor has obstacles to meet and surmount; and whatever pursuit, whether of manual labor, science or art, requires the highest exertions of will and persistency to overcome them, furnishes the best training for the development of the intellectual and moral powers of man. To secure and promote the just rights of the laborer and to increase his intelligence, is one of the noblest duties of statesmen."

☞There lives in the town of Lee a gentleman by the name of Peter Royal, who is 110 years old. He has a daughter who is 84, and two sons—one 82 and one 80. He used tobacco constantly until he arrived at the dignity of a centenarian, when he reformed and discarded the weed, as it might affect his health. He also discarded tea and coffee at the same tender age. His hair, which has been white, is now turning to a jet black; health good, and appetite all that could be desired. Indeed the old gentleman is so full of youthful buoyancy, and so well preserved, that he thinks seriously of getting married again.

☞Hon. Gideon Welles, Secretary of the Navy during the stormy days of the rebellion, died at his home in Hartford, Conn., Monday evening, from the effects of a carbuncle. He was born in Glastonbury, Conn., in 1802 and was a descendant of Thomas Welles the first treasurer and afterwards governor of Connecticut. He was formerly editor of the Hartford *Times*, and since the war has published in the Galaxy magazine, a series of politico-historic articles which have attracted wide attention.

☞We learn that the ten thousand dollars necessary to repair the academy buildings at Gorham, to prepare it for the new Normal School, has been raised, and that Col. Robie proposes to give $35,000 as an endowment fund.

KENNEBEC COUNTY ITEMS. On the evening of Jan. 31st, some fifty or sixty of the friends of Mr. and Mrs. Geo. W. Springer who have been away from their home at Litchfield Corner, for a year or two past, gave them a welcome in the way of a surprise visit which was an enjoyable affair. After the serving of a bountiful repast and a social exchange of kindly feelings, a few fitting remarks were made by our venerable pastor, Rev. J. T. Hawes, which was happily responded to by Mr. Springer. The party separated feeling that a pleasant evening had been enjoyed.——Last Saturday while John Tucker, of Fairfield, was leaving the ice at Gardiner, his horse broke through and was drowned.——There is an interesting revival of religion in progress at East Monmouth. Meetings have been held at the Methodist church, of which Rev. R. H. Kimball is pastor. Between twenty and thirty conversions have occurred. Wednesday evening presiding elder Martin was in attendance, when nine persons came forward. There is a deep religious feeling in the community.——Josiah W. Sprague of West Gardiner, died instantly Saturday morning, at his home. Mr. Sprague was a resident of Gardiner for many years and a man much respected for his industrious habits and excellent qualities.——The spring term of Colby University has been in progress one week. About half the students spent the winter vacation in teaching.——House and stable owned and occupied by C. G. Greene at Waterville was damaged by fire Sunday afternoon. Loss $1000; insured for $1200.——Kennebec District Lodge will hold its first annual session with Waterville Lodge, at their rooms in Waterville, on Wednesday, 27th inst., at 10 o'clock A. M. There will be a public meeting in the evening, at town hall, commencing at 7.30.——W. E. Whitman has just entered into a contract with the Winthrop Agricultural Works for 1500 grindstone frames for the English market.——Thursday noon last, says the *Reporter*, one of the workmen named Erskine, belonging in Augusta, at work for Barker & Co., in Gardiner, on the ice, was seized with hemorrhage of the lungs. A physician was at once summoned to attend him, but before reaching the man he died, bleeding to death in about fifteen minutes.——Rev. Mr. Skinner of Waterville, who was recently struck down by paralysis, is still living, but the *Mail* says he is failing daily, and with little if any hope of recovery.——A series of meetings will be held at the Friends' meeting house, in Albion, by Benjamin Franklin Estes, of Yarmouth, assisted by others.——The Gardiner Home *Journal* says, whether our ice dealers make any money or not, the ice business now is a perfect God-send to our laboring men. The Knickerbockers had 800 men on their pay roll, last week; and, between Merrymeeting Bay and Hallowell, there cannot be less than 3,000 men at work. Even though their wages may be low, the paying out of $3,000 per day among the laboring classes in a community like ours, is a blessing that can only be appreciated by poor men out of work; and it is going to take still more labor to ship it than to house it. We sincerely hope that those men who are employing all this labor, may themselves make something out of it.

HOW THEY WERE DRESSED. The following comments with regard to one feature of the legislative reception recently given at the Augusta House, are from the Portland *Price Current* and are worthy of careful consideration:

The report of the legislative reception at Augusta, on Tuesday evening last, is chiefly devoted to a description of the most elegantly dressed ladies present. As if a dazzling array of expensive and gorgeous dresses, is all that there is in life, or society worth noticing or living for. It is the prominence and attention given to such "shoddy displays" that is bankrupting the people of the country; indeed it is the most formidable vice, that we as a people, have to contend with; for while there are now other acknowledged vices which send its thousands, these fashionable and favored indulgences send their ten thousands, to perdition. They sear the conscience, incrust the soul with an impenetrable shell of worldliness and thereby debauch all that is high and honorable in life, by making men and women simply worshippers of themselves and slaves to fashion and frivolous show.

What does all this show indicate? when we come down to the solid hardpan realities of life, but, simply signals of distress to the victims of many of these decorous ornaments of fashionable society—that if they get ten, fifteen, or twenty per cent. of their due they will be lucky.

We do not wish to be understood as intimating that all whose wives or daughters wear costly and extravagant dresses fail to pay their honest debts, for few are able to dress and live in an expensive manner, but they, as a rule, are not of that class who flaunt out in expensive costumes—it is more generally nowadays to be seen among a class of people whom the community know cannot afford such extravagances and pay their honest debts; but so long as good dress and rich apparel are respected and honored, more than honest economy, the struggle for maintaining the conventionalities of society must prevail and the cry of "hard times" will continue to be the watchword throughout our land. But of all the various extravagances into which the people of this country drifted during the plethora of money growing out of the Rebellion, that of dress alone, seems to be the only indulgence that has not received some check, but on the contrary, is constantly increasing and will continue to do so, as long as the people and the public press encourage such a suicidal state of affairs in society.

THE SPRAGUE ESTATE. Mr. Z. Chafee, trustee of the A. & W. Sprague Manufacturing Company of Rhode Island, has addressed a letter to the creditors of the estate setting forth the condition of its finances on the 31st of December, 1877. From this statement it appears that the assets amounted to $17,484,655, and the liabilities to $12,-946.130, leaving a balance of assets of $4,-538,535. Mr. Chafee says the mill property is, as a whole, in better condition than it was at the time of the execution of the trust deed. The machinery of the different mills and print works has been kept up to the proper standard for working most economically; besides, too, the productiveness of the mills has been greatly increased. A large sum of money has been expended at the Baltic mill to repair the damage caused by the freshet in the spring of 1877. For this and new machinery, repairs, etc., the sum of about $400,000 has been expended. He says he has been embarassed and hampered in any effort in the disposition and sale of any property in consequence of the great number of law suits which have been instituted in part by creditors, and in part by the heirs of the late Edwin Hoyt.

☞The Maine Senate has passed an order, calling upon the justices of the supreme court for an opinion on the following question;

Does the treaty concluded at Washington, Aug. 9, 1842, for the purpose of determining the boundaries between the territories of the United States and the possessions of Her Brittannic Majesty in North America, confer the elective franchise on foreign born persons residing on the disputed territory in the northeastern portion of this State at the time of the treaty, and not otherwise naturalized?

☞Edmund Chase, the oldest Mason in the United States, died at his residence in Minot Thursday, aged ninety-two years and two months. He joined the masonic fraternity seventy years ago. He was born in Newbury, Mass., but his father came with his family to Minot, and was among the early settlers. Stephen and Merrill Chase, two of the brothers of Edmund, were among the early settlers of Woodstock. In 1825 the former went to Lincoln, Maine, and died there. They belonged to a long-lived race.

☞Mr. Martin L. Reynolds of Sidney who has in the past brought some choice beef into our market, brought in on Monday last, the carcass of a five year old steer raised by Faught brothers, Sidney, whose dressed weight was 1256 lbs. It was purchased by Messrs. Hill & Hoyt.

Editor's Table.

Lippincott's Magazine for March has been received. The leading article is the second paper of With the Russians in Bulgaria. This is followed by the concluding paper of Glimpses in Sweden. The Ironsides ta Fort Fisher and several other articles with the usual departments make up the number.

Harper's for March opens with State and Society in Washington, a finely illustrated article which gives some fine views of the Capital. The other illustrated articles are Old Flemish Masters, Summer Schools, Grand Menan and Quoddy Bay. The serial Stories are continued, and there are several sketches and short stories, besides Poetry and the usual departments.

LITTELL'S LIVING AGE. The numbers of *The Living Age* for the weeks ending February 9th and 16th, have the following valuable contents: The Dutch in Java, by Sir David Wedderburn; Schools of Mind and Manners; Erica, translated for *The Living Age* from the German of Frau von Ingersleben; Lord Melbourne; Congregational Singing; Macleod of Dare, by Wm. Black, from advance sheets; The Death of King Victor Emanuel; Murder of Commissioner Fraser,—Delhi, 1835, a Tale of Circumstantial Evidence; Baron Munchausen's Frozen Words; Will o' the Mill; The Vice of Talking Shop; Dulcissima, Dilectissima: a Passage in the Life of an Antiquary; and the usual choice poetry, etc. The back numbers containing the first instalments of "Erica," and a story by Miss Thackeray, are still sent gratis to new subscribers for 1878.

A HARD FIGHT. The Portland *Press* has the following description of an encounter with a wild animal of the cat species which is only occasionally found in the forests of Maine, at the present time, though once quite numerous:

On Thursday last Mr. J. L. Ingraham and son of West Camden discovered the track of a wild animal leading towards Ragged Mountain in the northern part of Camden. They at once put the hounds on the track and followed them. After following the track some two miles they caught sight of the animal, which proved to be an Indian Devil of the largest size. Being excellent marksmen and not in any way daunted by the fierce animal which they had to cope with, they took different routes to cut him off before he could reach the heavy growth of timber which lies on the top of the mountain. Agreeing, however, to meet at a point half way up the mountain, where they expected the animal would pass, Mr. J. L. Ingraham arrived first and discovered the animal coming up. Mr. Ingraham's son followed. Seeing Mr. Ingraham in his path he turned upon the hound and a terrible combat followed which lasted for a short time only, as the animal threw the hound in the air some ten feet. The men did not dare to fire while they were fighting for fear of killing the dog. After throwing the hound into the air, the animal, seeing Mr. Ingraham's son coming up, jumped to the top of a high cliff. The young man at once went below and prepared to fire. The animal watching his movements made a tremendous leap from the cliff to the young man below, over thirty-five feet. His father seeing that his only chance was to kill the animal in his leap at once fired breaking one foreleg. The animal struck his son, however, tearing his coat in shreds, knocking him down, and they both rolled down the mountain together some twenty feet. The hound followed and attacked the animal again, when the animal left the young man and turned on the dog and threw him into the air again, and he struck on a ledge below nearly dead. Mr. Ingraham arriving at this point, took the gun which his son had dropped in the struggle and fired. The animal dropped down on his side but was still very ferocious. They then took their guns and struck him until he ceased to move. He measured five feet and looked very much like an American panther.

STATE TEMPERANCE ALLIANCE. Extensive arrangements are being made for organizing a State Temperance Alliance in Portland on the 27th inst. The meeting for organization will be held in Congress Hall, in the afternoon, at 2 1-2 o'clock. In the evening a grand temperance rally will be held at City Hall, which will be addressed by ex-Gov. Anson P. Morrill of Readfield, ex-Gov. Nelson Dingley of Lewiston, ex-Gov. Sidney Perham, and others of Portland and also by J. N. Stearns, Esq., of New York, Rev. W. M. Thayer, Secretary of Massachusetts State Temperance Alliance, and probably Rev. Dr. Miner, President of the Massachusetts Alliance.

The Portland & Ogdensburg railroad will carry those attending this meeting on the line of their road for one fare the round trip. Return tickets can be had on presentation of a certificate from the Secretary of the meeting. On the Maine Central a reduction of one-third fare will be allowed at the stations where tickets are purchased. Arrangements with other roads will be duly announced.

☞The recent gale was very severe at Egg Rock Light Station. The bell tower was knocked over by the waves which swept over the rock, and the bell was so much damaged by the fall that it will have to be taken away to be repaired. There were only two short sticks of the tower left unbroken, and part of it is missing. The tower was east of the house; it now lies in a worthless heap on the south side where it was borne by the force of the waves. The lighthouse itself was not damaged, except that the iron ventilators in the basement were broken. With the exception of a small spot on the northwest end, the sea swept over the entire surface of the island, but no damage was done to the station other than as stated above.

☞The Alumni of Bowdoin College, residents of Bangor and vicinity, held their annual supper at the Bangor House, Friday evening. An oration was delivered by Prof. J. S. Sewall and a poem by Rev. G. T. Packard. The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: President, Hon. John A. Appleton, Vice Presidents, Marcellus Emery, Esq., Dr. R. K. Cushing, Hon. S. F. Humphrey; Secretary, Dr. T. U. Coe; Treasurer, John L. Crosby, Esq.; Executive Committee, Hon. C. W. Roberts, D. A. Robinson, Esq., J. W. Milliken, Esq.; Orator. T. R. Simonton, Esq.; Poet, Dr. E. M. Field; Toast Master, Hon. A. C. Hamlin.

THE EASTERN QUESTION. There is no great change in matters pertaining to the Eastern struggle, since our last issue, though the situation is regarded as more favorable for peace. The British fleet is in the Sea of Marmora, forty miles south of Constantinople, and the Russians do not occupy the Turkish Capital. The powers have agreed to a conference and Baden-Baden is talked of though not definitely fixed upon, as its place of meeting. It is expected that the conference will meet soon, and in the meantime the status quo will be observed.

☞The house, barn and out-buildings of Hon. Fairfield R. Cummings, in Blanket lane, near Prospect village, were totally destroyed by fire Saturday, Feb. 9th. A high wind prevailed at the time, and many other buildings in the vicinity were endangered, but owing to the dampness and the persevering efforts of the neighbors, the flames were confined to their original limits. The furniture and wearing apparel of the occupants, together with the contents of the barn, were totally destroyed. Loss about $1800; insured for a much smaller amount.

☞A despatch from Chicago says there is a great excitement there over the fact that the Commissioner of the General Land Office has decided that certain speculative land scrip, called "Valentine Scrip," can be located upon some twenty acres of land in the heart of the city which was formerly a Government military reservation. This includes Dearborn Park and a considerable portion of the lake front. The basis of the decision is that the land is still Government land upon which location can be made.

☞A fire in New York Sunday evening, destroyed six stores and two churches. The loss is not far from a million dollars.

Items of Maine News.

A railroad between Farmington and Phillips is much talked about.

Smith, the Bucksport murderer, has been refused a new trial by the Supreme Court.

Mr. Lincoln Nichols of Lisbon, had his leg broken Saturday by a kick from his colt.

John Adams Coffin, a well known business man at Harrington, died suddenly Thursday.

Mr. Lemuel Davis of Harrison, one of the best known residents of that town, died recently.

The dwelling house of Abbie F. Trevett in Trenton was burned Feb. 1st. Loss $1500; insured.

Albion W. Bodwell, formerly of Springvale was shot dead at Ophir City, Utah, recently, by a man named Bates.

Sheriff Millay has put three thousand tons of ice into his houses, which are situated about a mile below Bowdoinham.

Mrs. Eben Stevens of Bangor, found a boy burglar, about fifteen years old, in her house Wednesday. He escaped.

M. A. Hanson's shoe factory at Buckfield was burned Saturday morning; loss about $1200, insured for $8000, cause unknown.

Mr. A. P. Stone, formerly principal of the High School in Portland has been chosen one of the Supervisors of the Boston schools.

Warren Long, fourteen years old, of Denmark, committed suicide on Sunday, by hanging, in his father's barn. Some think it was accidental.

Prof. Charles H. Verrill, a native of Auburn, is now principal of the Delaware Literary Institute of Franklin, Delaware County, New Jersey.

"King David" has arrived in Biddeford. He hails from Exeter, and was arrested in Portland for wearing a fantastic head-dress of flowers and feathers.

Miss Eunice Wilbur of Franklin committed suicide Tuesday week by cutting her throat. She had been out of health for a long time and was despondent.

Royal Lodge, Knights of Honor, with thirteen charter members, was instituted in Saco last week. Wm. S. Noyes was elected representative to the grand lodge.

One of the Belfast clergymen is a very zealous worker and a great traveller, locally. He estimates that he drives over 2,000 miles in a year, in his professional duties.

Wallace Watson of Carlton county, N. B., arrested for connection with the valise filled with combustibles which was brought to Bangor last week, has

The Markets.

Brighton Cattle Market.

WEDNESDAY, Feb 20.

Amount of stock at market—Cattle 2433; Sheep and Lambs 4000; Swine 6800; number Western Cattle 2112; Eastern Cattle 236; Milch Cows and Northern Cattle 85.

Prices of Beef Cattle per 100 lbs. live weight—Extra quality $5 62½a5 81½; first quality $5 25a5 50; sec. quality $4 87½a5 12; third quality $4 50a4 75; poorest grade of coar e Oxen, Bulls, &c., $3 25a4 37½.

Brighton Hides 6¼c per lb.; Brighton Tallow 5 per lb. Country Hide 5¼a5c per lb.; Country Tallow 4¼a5c per lb. Calf Skins 10a11c per lb; Sheep and Lamb skins 75a$1 25 each.

There has not been quite so many Western Cattle brought in for the week as there were at last week's market. The quality upon an average was not so good, and prices remain unchanged from those of our last quotations. There were but a few lots of extra Beeves in market, and but a few sales made for more than 5¾c per lb. live weight. The trade opened quite active yesterday, and the larger portion of Western Cattle were disposed of before night. There were but few Beeves among those Cattle which came from Maine

Working Oxen—There has been a fair supply of Working Oxen in market for the week and a moderate demand. We quote sales of 1 pr, girth 7 ft 6 in, live weight 3600 lbs $167; 1 pr, girth 7 ft 7 in live weight 3200 lbs. $145; 1 pr, girth 6ft 9 in, live weight 2800 lbs, $115; 5 prs girth 6ft 6 in, live weight 2500 lbs $106.

Store Cattle—There were a few Store Cattle among those from Maine, but not much call for them. Prices depend much upon their value for Beef at this season of the year.

Milch Cows—Extra $55a95; ordinary $25a50 per head. Most of the Cows offered in market for sale are of a common grade. Trade for common grades has been dull of late. Good cows usually sell well at fair prices.

Sheep and Lamb—there were thirteen double deck loads of Western Sheep and Lambs brought into market the past wetk, all owned by G. W. Hollis and taken to the Avaloir to be slaughtered.

Swine—No Store Pigs in market. Fat hogs 7¾c; prices 5 per lb live weight.

Boston Market.

BOSTON, Feb. 20.

FLOUR AND GRAIN. We continue to notice a dull market for Flour, and the sales have been confined to small lots; we quote at $4a4 50 for Western superfine; $4 75a5 25 for common extras; $5a6 for Wisconsin extras; and $5 50a6 50 per bbl for Minnesota extras, including choice bakers' brands; better wheats have been selling at $6a6 50 per bbl for Ohio, Indiana and Michigan; $6a7 25 for Illinois; and $6 25a7 50 for St. Louis, including favorite brands. Southern Flour is quiet at $6a8 25 per bel for medium and choice family; patent Wisconsin and Minnesta brands are selling at $7a8 50 per bbl. Corn is quiet but firm, and we quote sales of 51a57c per bush for mixed and yellow, and 52a57c for ungraded on track. Oats are dull and in moderate demand; the sales have been at 40a43c per bush for No. 1 and extra white; 38a39c for No. 2 white and No. 1 mixed; and 36a37c for No. 3 white and No. 2 mixed. In Rye the sales have been at 78a79c per bush. Shorts have been selling at $15a19; and Fine Feed and Middlings at $19a22 per ton.

PROVISIONS. The demand for Pork is moderate with sales at $9a$10 50 for prime; $11 50 a$12 for mess; and $12 50 a$14 per bbl for clear and extra clear. Beef sells at $12a13 50 for mess and extra mess; and $14a15 per bbl for family. Lard has been in fair demand at 7¾a8c per lb for city and Western. Smoked Hams are selling at 8¾a10½c per lb for city and western, and 12a13c for fancy Western in bags. Dressed Hogs are dull at 5¼a5¾c for Western, and 5¼a6c for city dressed. Butter sells at 14a38c per lb for common and very choice; and Cheese at 10a14c per lb for common and prime.

PRODUCE. Eggs are quiet, with a good supply offering. The sales have been at 13a17c per dozen for Western, Northern and Eastern. White Beans have been in better demand, and are rather firmer. Sales of mediums at $1 75a1 85; pea at $1 90a2 10, and yellow eyes at $2 15a2 25 per bush. Potatoes have been in fair demand, but with an abundant supply. The sales of Early Rose have been at 60a65c, and Jackson Whites at 40a50c per bush. Onions have been selling at $1 75a2 25 per bbl. Cranberries are scarce and prices a shade higher, with sales of good, sound lots at $8a9 per bbl. Green Apples are scarce and firm, and have been selling at $5a6 per bbl. Dried Apples range from 7a8c per lb for good to prime choice, up to 10c per lb for evaporated. Poultry has been in fair demand at 10a15c per lb for Turkeys and Chickens.

HAY. There is a fair demand for choice Hay, but medium grades are plenty and dull. The sales of choice have been at $18a19; an occasional lot at $20; fine and medium grades from $14a18 per ton. Rye straw has been selling at $13a14 per ton.

HOPS. The market is quiet and we quote good and prime Eastern at 7a18c per lb.

Wool Market.

There is a dull tone to the Wool market, and for fine fleeces prices are a shade easier. Other grades remain without material change but, manufacturers appear to be quite indifferent about future supplies and purchase only for immediate wants The fine fleeces of Pennsylvania, Ohio and West Virginia, heretofore looked upon as the choicest and best Wools raised, are now as low as medium and X grades. Combing fleeces continue to be neglected. California Wool meets with a fair inquiry, and for super and X pulled there is a steady demand. The trade on the whole continues quite unsatisfactory. The sales of Ohio and Pennsylvania fleeces have been 150,000 lbs. at from 42½a45c per lb., including all grades from medium to choice XXX; 75,000 lbs good and ch ice Michigan and Wisconsin fleeces at 40a43c; 550,000 lbs. California at 18½a20c for tall and 17a36c for spring; 65,000 lbs combing and delaine at 42½a52c for washed and 30a35c for unwashed; 125,000 lbs unwashed and unmerchantable fleeces at 23a35c; 50,000 lbs noils at 30a45c; and 150,000 lbs super and X pulled at 42a46c, mostly from 35a40c, but including choice Maine and Eastern supers at 45a46c per lb.

BOSTON, Feb. 20.

Gold and Stock Market.

NEW YORK, Feb. 13.

Money was active at @5 per cent. on call.
Gold opened at 101¾ and closed at 101¾.

United States 6i|ses (coupons), 1881.		105¾
" " 5.20's, 1865.		104¼
" " " 1865, (new)		103¾
" " " 1867,		104¾
" " " 1868,		108¾
" New 5's,		103¾
" 10.40's (coupons),		107¾
" Currency 6's,		119½

Augusta City Market.

THURSDAY, Feb. 21.

APPLES—An occasional barrel of winter apples comes into market at about $5 Dried 7a9c.

BEANS—Handsome pea beans, clean and nice, have sold the past week at $2 50a2 75; yellow eyes $2 00.

BUTTER—Fall make in nice condition 25c; common winter make 20a22c.

CHEESE—Factory 11a13c; private dairy 10a12c.

FLOUR—$8 00a10 00 per bbl.

GRAIN—Corn 64a70c; oats 40c.

HAY—Pressed $15, prime quality, $15a16.

HONEY—Choice Aroostok honey 25a28c per box.

HIDES AND SKINS—Hides a 6c; calf skins 10a12c; lamb skins 50a75c; deacons 50; shearlings 20a25c.

LIME AND CEMENT—$1 per cask for lime, $3 for cement.

NATIVE CRANBERRIES—3 00 per bush.

MEAL—Corn 73a75c; rye $1 25.

PRODUCE—Pointoes 45a50c; eggs 16a18c; lard 14c.

PROVISIONS—Clear salt pork 9 10 00a12 00; rounds 6c; beef 4½a5c per lb. Calf Skins 10a11c per lb; Sheep and Lamb skins 75a$1 25 each.

There has not been quite so many Western Cattle brought in for the week as there were at last week's market. The quality upon an average was not so good, and prices remain unchanged from those of our last quotations. There were but a few lots of extra Beeves in market, and but a few sales made for more than 5¾c per lb. live weight. The trade opened quite active yesterday, and the larger portion of Western Cattle were disposed of before night. There were but few Beeves among those Cattle which came from Maine

Working Oxen—There has been a fair supply of Working Oxen in market for the week and a moderate demand. We quote sales of 1 pr, girth 7 ft 6 in, live weight 3600 lbs $167; 1 pr, girth 7 ft 7 in live weight 3200 lbs. $145; 1 pr, girth 6ft 9 in, live weight 2800 lbs, $115; 5 prs girth 6ft 6 in, live weight 2500 lbs $106.

Store Cattle—There were a few Store Cattle among those from Maine, but not much call for them. Prices depend much upon their value for Beef at this season of the year.

Milch Cows—Extra $55a95; ordinary $25a50 per head. Most of the Cows offered in market for sale are of a common grade. Trade for common grades has been dull of late. Good cows usually sell well at fair prices.

Sheep and Lamb—there were thirteen double deck loads of Western Sheep and Lambs brought into market the past wetk, all owned by G. W. Hollis and taken to the Avaloir to be slaughtered.

Swine—No Store Pigs in market. Fat hogs 7¾c; prices 5 per lb live weight.

Portland Market.

WEDNESDAY, Feb. 20.

APPLES—$4 00a5 00 per bbl. Dried 9 to 12c per lb

BUTTER—25a31c for family; store, 13a16c per lb.

BEANS—Pea $2 37a2 25; yellow eyes $2 25a2 10.

CHEESE—Maine and Vermont Factory 12a15½c.

FISH—Large shore $4 50a4 75; large bank $4 25a4 75; small $3 00a3 50; pollock $1 50a2 00; haddock $1 75a1 50; herring $4 00a4 50 per bbl; scaled 20a25c per box; mackerel per bbl—bay No. 2 to No. 1, $9 00a17 50; shore Nos. 1 and 2, $7 00a17 50.

FLOUR—Superfine $4 75a5 25; spring X and XX $6 00a7 00; Michigan winter X and XX $6 50a7 25; patent spring wheat 8 00a9 75; St. Louis X and XX to best $6 50 a8 50.

GRAIN—Corn 54a56c; bag lots 60a60c per bush; oats 43a45; fine feed 24a24 50 per ton; shorts 21 00 per ton.

HAY—Loose $15a18 per ton; pressed $15 00a18 00; straw $8a10 per ton.

LARD—Per tierce 8¼a8c per lb; per keg 8¼a8½; pail 10a10½;

PLASTER—Rock per ton $2 00; ground in bbls $1 15; calcined in bbs $2 25a2 50.

PRODUCE.—Beef side 6a10c; veal 6a8c, mutton 5a8c; chickens 10a15c; turkeys 15a16; eggs 16a18c; potatoes 50a60c; cabbage $10a7 per ton.

PROVISIONS—Chicago extra beef 14 50a14 00; pork backs $15 00a15 50; clear $14a14 50; mess $13a12 50; hams 9¼a10c per lb; round hogs 6a5½c.

Banger Produce Market.

WEDNESDAY, Feb. 2°.

BEANS—Yellow eyes $1 75a2 00 per bush; pea $2 1a2 00

BUTTER—16a25c per lb.

EGGS—14a14c per doz.

HAY—$12a15 per ton; pressed $12a15.

GRAIN—Oats 42a45c per bush; corn 63a63c.

POTATOES—30a50 per bush.

PROVISIONS—Pork 15a18 per bbl; round hog 5a5½c per lb; fresh beef per side 5a8c mutton and lambs 6 a8cts.

HIDES AND SKINS—Pelts 50c@$1 25 each; hide 5c per lb; veal skin 10a12c per lb.

WOOL—Fleece wool 27a37c per lb.

☞England is acknowledged to be the strongest naval power in the world, but she evidently feels that in the impending struggle of the giants, she needs to strengthen it, and hence has just purchased two iron clads now in the London docks, which were built for Turkey, but were prevented leaving by the British government's neutrality declaration.

☞Cyrus H. Ripley of Paris has been relieved from duty at the Portland Custom House. He was messenger to the Governor and Council during several administrations, begining with Gov. Washburne, and when the latter was appointed collector of the port of Portland he gave Mr. Ripley the position of storekeeper. He has held office or nearly twenty successive years.

☞HUNT'S REMEDY cures Kidney, Bladder and Glandular Complaints, Diabetes Gravel and Female Weakness. HUNN'S REMEDY cures Retention and Incontinence of Urine, Pain in the Back and Loins, Bright's Disease, Excesses, Intemperance and Nervous Prostration. HUNT'S REMEDY cures Dropsy and all Diseases of the Kidneys, Bladder and Urinary Organs.

Clarke's Tooth-ache Drops cure instantly.

☞An exchange says that Senator Jones of Nevada, the leader of the silver movement, is not a bonanza king, as popularly supposed. He was at one time worth $3,000,000, but his mine gave out, and bad investments and unfortunate speculations, it is said, have swept away the most of his accumulations.

☞Stop that terrible cough and thus avoid a consumptive's grave, by taking Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery. As a cough remedy it is unsurpassed. Sold by all druggists.

Congressional Summary.

WEDNESDAY, Feb. 13.

SENATE. Hamlin of Maine, from foreign relations, reported adversely on the petition of certain citizens of New York, asking an appropriation from the Chinese indemnity fund, to aid persons in certain provinces of China, now suffering on account of famine.

He said the committee are unanimously of the opinion that it is utterly impossible to get any relief to the sufferers, and besides any attempt to devote the Chinese indemnity fund to that purpose would lead to discussion.

The Senate resumed the silver bill, and Merriman spoke in favor thereof.

Saunders of Neb., followed in support of the bill.

Allison, in charge of the silver bill, asked that it be understood by unanimous consent that on Friday next the Senate continue in session until the pending bill and all the amendments are disposed of.

No objection being made it was understood by unanimous consent that a vote should be taken on Friday next.

After some further debate the Senate adjourned to to-morrow.

HOUSE. Several bills were presented, after which the House went into committee of the whole on the military academy bill, the pending amendment being to strike out the section prohibiting the appointment of civilians to the rank of second lieutenants, when more vacancies occur than can be filled by the next graduating class of the academy.

Hayes and Hale then spoke in opposition to the amendment.

Reagan offered an amendment providing that as vacancies occur in the academy, every alternate vacancy shall remain vacant for one academy term, so there be for the future one-half the present number of cadets.

Hale reiterated the charge made by Conger that the democratic party was determined to cut down the army.

Atkins—There is no such motive. It is a false assumption on the part of the gentleman from Michigan that there is a hidden motive on this side of the House to destroy the army.

After a long and exciting debate, Durham, who had charge of the bill, moved the committee rise for the purpose of closing the debate on this amendment.

THURSDAY, Feb. 14.

SENATE. Mr. Bayard presented a memorial of New York banks against the silver bill.

House joint resolution declaring a reduction of the tax on distilled spirits inexpedient passed, yeas 40, nays 9.

Mr. Hamlin submitted a resolution requesting the President if not incompatible with the public interest, to transmit any correspondence between our government and China relating to the Ward claims and claim of Charles E. Hill for the charter of steamer Kear Arar. Agreed to.

Mr. Frey called up the Senate bill to regulate the compensation of postmasters, being that reported from the Committee on Post Offices and Post Roads, with amendments, on the 5th inst.

Pending discussion the morning hour expired and the bill was laid over.

Senate resumed the consideration of the silver bill. Mr. Jones of Nevada, spoke in favor.

Mr. Wadleigh of New Hampshire spoke against.

Mr. Blaine introduced his bill which accompanied his speech made last week.

Adjourned till to-morrow, when the vote on the silver bill will be taken.

HOUSE. Mr. Gibson, of Louisiana, rising to a question of privilege said he repudiated the intimation or suspicion of any representative of ouisiana having been engaged in any bargain in regard to the Presidency which reflected on the honor of that State. During his remarks Mr. Hale inquired if the gentleman sustains the prosecutions that have been, and are now going on against the Returning Board.

Mr. Gibson—If the men have been guilty of any violation of the laws of that state the authorities are perfectly right in prosecuting them.

Mr. Hale—Then the gentleman does not discountenance it.

Mr. Gibson—Does the gentleman mean to say he thinks it is not right to prosecute them.

Mr. Hale—Does the gentleman ask what I think; I think the whole proceeding the greatest outrage which ever occurred in American history; because I believe it a political prosecution under the guise of a process of law. (Derisive laughter on the Democratic side.)

Mr. Gibson—I do not yield to the gentleman to denounce the people of the State of Louisiana. Since I have been on this floor the gentleman from Maine has omitted no occasion to denounce the people of Louisiana. I have treated his former denunciations as I treat this with the contempt they merit.

Mr. Gibson continued his remarks, at the conclusion of which Mr. Hale rose to reply but was met with cries of regular order from the Democratic side.

The House then proceeded to act on the military academy bill. All the amendments reported from the Committee of the Whole were agreed to and the bill passed.

FRIDAY, Feb. 15.

SENATE. Mr. Lamar (announcing it as a painful duty) presented the resolution of the Mississipp) legislature protesting their Senators to vote for the silver bill. Mr. Lamar said: Mr. President between these resolutions and my convictions there is a great gulf. I cannot pass it. Of my love to the state of Mississippi I will not speak. To day I must be true or false, honest or cunning, faithful or unfaithful to my people. Even in this hour of their legislative displeasure and disapprobation I cannot vote as these resolutions direct. I cannot and will not shirk the responsibility which my position imposes. My duty as I see it I will do and I will vote against this bill.

Question was taken on the amendment of the Finance Committee to strike out of House bill the free coinage feature, and insert a new clause as above noted, and it was agreed to—yeas 49, nays 22.

Question then recurred on the second section of the bill reported by the committee on finance providing for an international commission to adopt a common ratio of legal tender as between gold and silver.

After discussion Mr. Allison modified the amendment by striking out the words "legal tender" so the conference should be to adopt a common ratio between gold and silver without reference to "legal tender."

The amendment as modified was agreed to, yeas 40, nays 30.

Mr. Cameron submitted an amendment providing that the silver dollar shall consist of 420 grains of standard silver, instead of 412 1-2 grains, and spoke in favor of the amendment.

Mr. Blaine submitted an amendment to that of Cameron so as to have the silver dollar consists of 425 grains instead of 420. Rejected, yeas 23, nays 46. Mr. Conover voted with those in favor of a single standard and in favor of the amendment.

Mr. Eaton submitted an amendment to have the dollar consist of 440 grains stand ard silver instead of 412 1-2. Rejected, yeas 18, nays 49.

The question recurred on Mr. Cameron's amendment to make the silver dollar consist of 420 grains, and it was rejected, yeas 25, nays 44.

Mr. Whyte submitted an amendment to limit the legal tender power of the silver coinage to $20. Rejected, yeas 20, nays 46

At 5 o'clock A. M., Saturday, the Senate, by a vote of 48 yeas to 21 nays, passed the bill to authorize the coinage of a standard silver dollar, and to restore its legal tender character. The vote was as follows:

Yeas—Allison, Armstrong, Bailey, Beck, Booth, Bruce, Cameron (Pa.,) Cameron, Wis., Chaffee, Cockrell, Coke, Conover, Davis, (Ill.) Davis, (W. Va) Dennis, Dorsey, Eustis, Ferry, Garland, Gordon, Grover, Hereford, Howe, Ingalls, Johnston, Jones, (Fla.,) Jones, (Nev.) Kellogg, Kirkwood McCreery, McDonald, McMillan, Matthews Maxey, Merrimon, Morgan, Oglesby, Paddock, Plumb, Saulsbury, Saunders, Spencer, Teller, Thurman, Voorhees, Wallace, Windom and Withers—48.

Nays—Anthony, Barnum, Bayard, Blaine, Burnside, Christiancy, Conkling, Dawes Edmunds, Hamlin, Hoar, Kernan, Lamar, McPherson, Mitchell, Morrill, Randolph, Rollins, Sargent, Wadleigh and Whyte—21

HOUSE Several private bills were passed and the House then went into committee of the whole on the private calendar.

The second bill on the calendar was the one which applies to the appropriation of $365,000, made by act of Congress approved March 3 1877, to pay certain Southern mail contractors.

After a short debate, and without action, the committee rose.

The bill to pay George H. Giddings of Texas, $2,967, due him as mail contractor between Sante Fe, N. M., and San Antonio, Texas, (some years before the war), was reported favorably from the committee.

Pending action, the House adjourned till Monday.

MONDAY, Feb. 18.

SENATE. Bills were introduced as follows:

Providing for the election of a territorial governor, secretary and other officers in the territories.

To provide for an organization of the territory of Oklahama, and for the protection of the Indian tribes there.

Voorhees presented petitions praying for the remonetization of silver dollars and repeal of the specie resumption act.

Vice President—It will be referred to the committee on finance, under the last clause.

Voorhees—The repeal of the specie resumption act is yet to come, and I hope it will come very soon.

The bill to enable Indians to become citizens was taken up, and Whyte spoke in opposition, and the bill was finally postponed.

HOUSE. The silver bill with the Senate amendments was returned to the House immediately after the commencement of the session to-day, and now lies on the table with other business.

Bayard presented the petition of the National Liberal League, signed by 10,660 persons in every State, favoring the adoption of the amendment to the constitution separating Church and State. Referred to the judiciary.

On motion of Ewing the Bland silver bill with the Senate amendments was ordered printed.

This does not alter the status of the bill, which remains on the Speaker's table.

TUESDAY, Feb. 19.

SENATE. Ferry called up bill regulating the compensation of postmasters, which was discussed at some length. During the discussion Davis of West Va. expressed the opinion that the bill should be amended so as to allow transmission of official communications of members of Congress to pass through the mails free.

Edmunds, Hamlin and others also expressed themselves in favor of restoration of the franking privilege. Further consideration of the bill was postponed until to-morrow.

HOUSE. Harris, chairman of election committee, called up the election case of Acklin, vs. Darrell, from the Fourth Louisiana district. The majority report in favor of Acklin and minority in favor of Darrell, the sitting member, were read.

Hale of Maine desired to obtain the floor to reply to a speech made a few days ago by Gibson of Louisiana, but withdrew his request with the understanding that he should be allowed an hour during the debate on the electioa case.

Stephens said: To-morrow, as soon as this case is disposed of, I shall move to proceed to business on the Speaker's table, with the view of taking up the House silver bill, which has come back from the Senate with amendments: I state further that my object shall be to move to concur in those amendments. (Applause on the republican side.)

Butler—Every supporter of the bill will vote against that.

Bland explained he intended to make the same motion as the gentleman from Georgia intimated he would make.

Buckner said he intended this morning to move to refer the bill to the committee on banking, but he was not particular how the bill should be brought up.

After Harris' speech Hale of Maine obtained the floor and replied to the remark made Thursday by Gibson of Louisiana, that he (Hale) had taken occasion in season and out of season to denounce the people of Louisiana. He denied he had ever denounced those people. On the contrary he had taken occasion to interfere on the floor of the House to speak plainly upon the grievances which existed in that State, and which he had earnestly regretted.

In conclusion he intimated that it might be the constitutional duty of the President to see that no injustice was done a citizen of the United States.

Mr. Gibson of Louisana replied to Mr. Hale at some length, stating that the returning board was being prosecuted for forgery.

At the conclusion of Mr. Hale's remarks a debate ensued in which Garfield, Carlisle, Gibson, Thompson of Pa., Clymer, Patterson of New York and Chalmers of Miss. took part on the Louisiana question and the merits of the republican and democratic parties, after which the House at 6 o'clock adjourned.

TURF NOTES. The treasurer of the National Association of Trotters and Breeders, Mr. Clark Bell has resigned.

The Breeders' Association will this season open a stake for the produce of stallions whose colts have not trotted better than 2.45.

It is probable that the Association in the grand circuit next season will limit the purses for each meeting to a sum between $12.000 and $15.000.

It is intended that Ten Broeck shall meet all comers this season in races of two and a half to four miles, for any sum from $2,500 to $10,000, provided the races are run either at Lexington or Louisville.

The races at Crystal Park, Ottawa, Ont., Saturday were well attended. The unfinished race for the 2.50 class was won by Miss Tartar, with White Bird second; time, 2 34 3-4. The 2.35 race had five starters. Drummer Boy won the first, fourth and fifth heats; time, 2 34 3 4 2 30 1-4. 2 34. Deceit won the second and third heats in 2 30 1-4 and 2 31 1 4. The five-mile trot had four starters—Red Jacket, Lady Thorn, Jim White and Captain Kidd. Jim White led the first four miles, but threw a shoe and lost his position. Captain Kidd won by half a length in 14.05 3 4.

☞The insurrection in Cuba which has been fitfully waged for several years with varying success and with fearful loss of life and property appears to have smouldered out.

A newspaper printed in the interior of the island publishes an official despatch dated on the 10th inst., laying down conditions of peace. According to these terms Cuba is to receive the same political organization and administrative concessions as Porto Rico. Ample pardon is to be granted for all political offences committed since 1868, including persons under sentence, political prisoners and deserters from the Spanish lines. All slaves and Chinamen within the insurgent limits are to receive their liberty. No one recognizing the Spanish authority under the treaty is to be compelled to war-service unless peace be re-established throughout the whole island. Those desiring to leave Cuba are to be afforded the means to do so. The Spanish troops have suspended hostilities, and guides have been despatched to proclaim these conditions to all insurgent bands.

☞A dispatch from Washington says the officers at the Post Office Department estimate that the Revenue Department is now suffering at a rate not less than a million dollars per month by the flood of stamps sold by postmaster at small country offices at a discount for use in cities and towns. The postmasters at St. Louis alone shows conclusively and his office was defrauded of revenue to the amount of $180,000 per annum in this way.

A despatch has been received at the Department from a special agent in Maine stating that a postmaster there confessed to having peddled $1,000 worth and had offered to restore $300 if the Department would not prosecute him.

☞Miss Annie Louise Cary has received the gift of a china cup and saucer artistically decorated in Egyptian style, the inscriptions having reference to the ancient Princess Amneris, or to the same character that Miss Cary portrays in Verdi's opera of "Aida." Inside the saucer is the prayer of the Princess Amneris to Osiris in hieroglyphic characters. Outside of the cup is the monogram of Miss Cary, with the name of the character, Amneris, together with representations of the Sphinx and Lotos; while running round nearer the rim is a passage from Amneris's denunciation in the fourth act of "Aida," expressed both in notes of music and words.

☞A telegram from Rome to the London *Times* says King Humbert I., of Italy, notified the Vatican that he would attend the funeral of the late Pope, provided a suitable place indicative of his royal position was assigned to him. But the Vatican slyly avoids this application by saying that the funeral of the Holy Father will be privately celebrated. In other words it informs his majesty that a king can attend the funeral only as a private citizen. Is this preliminary to a struggle for temporal supremacy between the in-coming Pontiff and the new King of United Italy?

☞Hon. A. H. Stevens of Georgia recently paid a glowing tribute to Mr. Lincoln personally and as the emancipator of the slaves, in joint session of the two Houses of Congress. His statement that he knew no man in the South who would remand the colored population to slavery if he could, made a profound sensation in the intelligent audience.

☞About thirty persons are seriously sick at Richford, Vt., and one death has occurred, from the effects of using water from a well situated on the street. The water is supposed to be heavily loaded with organic matter, and yet it is clear and tasteless.

Foreign News.

Italy.

London, Feb. 18. A despatch from Rome says: "All the Cardinals have arrived except Cardinals Di Traetto, St. Marc and Apuzzo, who are not coming, and Cardinal McCloskey, who is expected. Cardinals Di Pietro, De Luca and Panebianco are acceptable for election to the Italians. Cardinal Parrochi and Maretti are favored by the foreign Cardinals, while Cardinals Pecci and Di Canossa are supported in various quarters."

Rome, Feb. 18. After the special service the Cardinals will to-night enter their cells on the third story of the Vatican. The conclave begins to-morrow.

Cardinal Pecci has been elected Pope.

Germany.

Berlin, Feb. 18. Princess Charlotte, daughter of the Crown Prince of Germany, will be married this evening in the old palace to Prince Bernard of the Duchy of Saxe Meinengin.

Peru.

London. Feb. 9. A telegram received by the Peruvian Guano Co., states that a strong tidal wave has swept the coast of Peru. Callao was severely damaged. No ship at the guano deposits was injured.

Africa.

Cape Town, Jan. 28. A general advance made against the enemy was successful 10,000 cattle and 15,000 sheep being captured. The Kaffirs lost heavily. Trauskei is completely cleared of the enemy.

China.

London, Feb. 19. The Times editorially says it is stated on authority which cannot be questioned, that 700 000 human beings are now starving in the famine-stricken provinces of North China. Imagination fails to cope with so gigantic a calamity.

The Eastern Question.

New York, 18. Cable specials say the situation is now regarded in London as more peaceful.

London, Feb. 19. A special from St. Petersburg says Gorschakoff declared to Lord Loftus that he will not advance upon Gallipoli, provided British troops do not land.

Vienna, Feb. 19. In the Austrian Reichstag to-day Prince Auersperg, Prime Minister, answering the interpellation, declared that Austria would never consent to any modification of the limits of her power in the East, which might damage Austria.

Berlin, Feb. 19. In the Reichstag to-day in response to an interruption, Bismarck stated he had little practically new to tell. He then discussed separately the provisions of the preliminaries of peace, and showed Germany's interests are not affected in such a manner as to oblige her to deviate from her previous attitude. He described the apprehension respecting the Dardanelles as not justified by the actual situation. Regarding the position to be taken by Germany, he rejected emphatically all suggestions that Germany should intervene, and declared she was willing honorably to mediate, but did not wish to exercise the office of arbiter of Europe.

London, Feb. 19. The Telegraph's Vienna correspondent says that difficulty has arisen relative to the date of the convocation of the Congress.

Gortschakoff considers a preliminary treaty of peace should be first signed.

Austria objects to Russia being able to present a treaty as a fait accompli.

☞The increased consumption of Cocoa and its various preparations is due as much to its intrinsic value as a healthful and nutritious beverage as to the high encomiums bestowed thereon by the highest medical authority. Walter Baker & Co., the great chocolate manufacturers of Boston, point with pride to their record of a century. Beginning in 1780, with a determination to produce only the best and purest preparations in their line, this firm has so rigidly adhered to their high standard as to win the highest encomiums in all parts of the world. Medals, diplomas, first premiums have been awarded them everywhere; for French Chocolates at Paris, for German Chocolates at Vienna; but their great triumph is in the voice of the people, which demands their preparations to such an extent that they can really be purchased nearly everywhere.

LARGE EXPORTS OF PROVISIONS IN JANUARY. The exports of provisions from the principal ports during the month of January, as returned to the Bureau of Statistics, were as follows: From New York, 89 269,131; Boston, $1.178.023; Baltimore, $571,423; Portland, $152.082 From New York the exports consisted of 51,844 879 lbs. of hams and bacon; 2 974.540 lbs. of fresh, and 2,752.576 of salt beef; 4 389 434 lbs. of pork; 33,278,412 lbs. of lard; 4 481.156 lbs. of tallow; 5,893.010 lbs. of cheese, and 506,062 lbs. of butter.

☞It is all-important that the young should learn how to avoid the most difficult diseases always prevalent in civilized communities, and hardly less important than men of middle age, and even those more advanced in life, should understand how the best powers of manhood may be restored. Qu these and other kindred matters, the work entitled "The Science of Life, or Self-Preservation," is more lucid than any other medical work extant. No less valuable is the work on "Diseases of the Nerves and Nervous Maladies." Both these works are published by the "Peabody Medical Institute," Boston. Their advertisement in another column should receive the attention of all our readers. The appreciation of the medical faculty for the author is shown by the fact that an elegant and costly Gold Medal has been presented him by the National Medical Association.

☞The project before Congress to pension the surviving soldiers of the Mexican war calls for 7 1-2 millions of dollars yearly from the national treasury. The average of the sur viving soldiers of that war is 56 years, when that of the soldiers of 1812 when pensioned, was seventy years. The Mexican veterans should be willing to wait a few years longer.

The Parent of Insomnia.

The parent of insomnia or wakefulness is in nine cases out of ten a dyspeptic stomach. Good digestion gives sound sleep, indigestion interferes with it. The brain and stomach sympathize. One of the prominent symptoms of a weak state of the gastric organs is a disturbance of the great nerve entrepot, the brain. Invigorate the stomach, and you restore equilibrium to the great centre. A most reliable medicine for the purpose is Hostetter's Stomach Bitters, which is far preferable to mineral sedatives and powerful narcotics which, though they may for a time exert a soporific influence upon the brain, soon cease to act, and invariably injure the tone of the stomach. The Bitters on the contrary, restore activity to the operations of that all important organ, and the beneficent influence is reflected in sound sleep and a tranquil state of the nervous system. A wholesome impetus is likewise given to the action the liver and bowels by its use.

Special Notices.

Nothing Short of Unmistakable Benefit so far as upon tens of thousands of sufferers could originate and maintain the reputation which AYER'S SARSAPARILLA enjoys. It is a compound of the best vegetable alteratives, with the iodides of Potassium and Iron, and is the most effectual of all remedies for scrofulous, mercurial, or blood disorders. Uniformly successful and certain in its remedial effects, it produces rapid and complete cures of Scrofula, Sores, Boils, Humors, Pimples, Eruptions, Skin Diseases and all disorders arising from impurity of the blood. By its invigorating effects it always relieves and often cures Liver Complaints, Female Weakness and Irregularities, and is a potent renewer of vitality. For purifying the blood it has no equal; it tones up the system restores and preserves the health, and imparts vigor and energy. For forty years it has been in extensive use, and is to-day the most available medicine for the suffering sick everywhere

FOR SALE BY ALL DEALERS.

The Centaur Liniments are of two kinds. The **White** is for the human family; the **Yellow** is for horses, sheep, and other animals. Testimonials of the effects produced by these remarkable Preparations are wrapped around every bottle, and may be procured of any druggist, or by mail from the Office of THE CENTAUR COMPANY, 46 Dey Street, New York City. 1y10

Save The Children!

Multitudes of them suffer, linger, and die, because of Pin-worms. The only known remedy for these most troublesome and dangerous of all worms in children or adults, is **DR. GOULD'S PIN-WORM SYRUP.** Purely vegetable; sure death to all worms; a valuable cathartic, and beneficial to health. Warranted. Price reduced to 50 cts. per bottle. GEO. C GOODWIN & CO., BOSTON. 10y52

A CARD.

To all who are suffering from the errors and indiscretions of youth, nervous weakness, early decay, loss of manhood, &c., I will send a receipt that will cure you, FREE OF CHARGE. This great remedy was discovered by a missionary in South America. Send a self-addressed envelope to the REV. JOSEPH T. INMAN, *Station D, Bible House, N. Y.* 1y39

☞It is an established fact that Consumption can be cured by the use of Piso's Cure for Consumption. Sold by druggists everywhere. 25 cts.

Married.

In Augusta, Feb. 13, by Rev. C. F. Penney, John S. Smiley to Emma Rose both of Sidney.

In Auburn, Jan. 30, Charles F. Skinner to Georgie Dickson; Feb. 11, George M. Collins to Catherine A. Jordan of Sumner.

In Appleton, Jan. 30, Manly Pierpoint of Washington to Jennie N. Bryant, of Searsmont.

In Brunswick, Feb. 9, Chas H. Hunter of Pittsfield to Margarite O. Stone; Jan. 19, Chas. H. Rich to Eva F. Hatch of Freeport; Jan. 26, Frank L. Robinson of Thomaston to Fannie E. Atkins of Topsham

In Bath, Feb. 8, Henry M. Heald to Fannie S. Higgins, both of Phipsburg; Feb. 16, Alvah W. Brown of West Bath to Isabella J. Edgecomb; Feb. 11, Abner H. Foye to Ellen M. Donnell, both of Wiscasset; Feb. 12, Chas. F. McFadden to Emma E. Oliver.

In Biddeford, Feb. 13, John C. Robbins to Mary F Gould; Feb 2, George Mabry to Carrie F. Andrews

In Bingham, Feb. 10, Anson W. Goodrich of Skowhegan to Juliet Goodrich

In Bangor, Feb. 13, Walter Sturtevant to Jennie V. Boody.

In Calais, Feb 2, Richard B. Dudley to Minnie E. Foster, both of Milltown

In Charlottetown, P. E. ., Feb. 2, Donald McLeod of Orwell Cove to Mary Murchesom of Point Prim; James McLean to Margaret McLeod, both of Orwell Cove; Feb. 2, Charles LeLacheur of Guernsey Cove, Murray Harbor, to Maria McLeod.

In Deering, Feb. 13, Arthur H. Armington to Mary E. Milliken of Saco.

In Durham, Feb 9, Charles M. Varney of Providence, R. I., to Hattie M. Weeks

In Damariscotta, Feb. 7, Moses J. Kelley, chaplain U. S. A., to Clara A. Weeks.

In Ellsworth, Feb. 7, Frank A. Stockbridge of Waltham, Mass., to Sarah H. Grant; Feb. 2, William Mitchell to Josephine Young.

In Freetown, P. E. I., Jan. 29, J. Davis Scharman to Mazzie A. Auld.

In Gouldsboro, Feb. 2, Charles E. Crane to Eva J Guptill of Steuben.

In Georgetown Feb. 4, Charles Morrison to Sarah McLean Morrison, all of Fat River; Jan. 29, Michael McPhee of Burnt Point to Flora Holland of Georgetown Royalty

In Kennebunkport, Jan. 29, Clement S Perkins to Laurette Hutchins.

In Litchfield. Feb. 7, Frank W. Libby of Strawn, Ill., to Hattie F Nutting

Martinville, Feb. 9, Llewellyn B. Twombly to Emma J. Smith

In New Sharon, Feb 7, Nathan Witham to Martha Laftin; Feb 6, J. E. Cunningham of New Vineyard to Alice F. Harris of Farmington.

In New Gloucester, Feb. 6, John F. Purves to Hanh D Sylvester

In North Paris, Jan. 31, James D. Murch to Ida F. Noyes.

In Oldtown, Feb. 10, Geo. A. Gray to Mary F. Braley.

In Portland, Feb. 9, Earnest M. Pelton to Mary E. Riley; Feb. 12, Horatio W. Palmer of Buxton to Georgia A. Smith of Scarboro; Feb. 13, Addi C. Haley to Alice R. McGuire; Feb. 14, Alexander Johnson to Annie D Oleson.

In Prince

The Maine Farmer: An Agricultural and Family Newspaper.

Poetry.

The Sabbath.

Fresh glides the brook and blows the gale,
Yet yonder halts the quiet mill;
The whirling wheel, the rushing sail,
How motionless and still!

Six days of toil, poor child of Cain,
Thy strength the slave of want may be;
The seventh thy limbs escape the chain—
A God hath made thee free!

Ah! tender was the law that gave
This holy respite to the breast,
To breathe the gale, to watch the wind,
And know the wheel may rest!

But where the waves the gentlest glide,
What image charms to light thine eyes?
The spire reflected on the tide
Invites thee to the skies.

To teach the soul its noblest worth,
The rest from mortal toil is given;
Go snatch the brief reprieve from earth,
And pass—a guest to heaven.

They tell thee, in their dreaming school,
Of power from old domini is hurled,
When rich and poor, with ju ter rule,
Shall share the altered world.

Alas! since time itself began,
That fable hath but fooled the hour;
Each age that ripens power in man,
But subjects man to power.

Yet every day in seven, at least,
One bright republic shall be known;
Man's world awhile hath surely ceased,
When God proclaims his own!

Six days may rank divide the poor,
O Dives, from thy banquet-hall;
The seventh the Father opes his door,
And holds His feast for all!

Our Story Teller.

THE HOLE IN THE FLOOR.

The life-object of Seth Grovner and Susan his wife was to amass property. It had been their aim since their wedded existence, which now counted fifteen years, and was still cherished as the dearest wish of their hearts. No change was made except it would hasten the desired consummation of this long-nurtured hope; no outlay was ventured upon unless it promised assistance in the hoarding of money. Not a day's respite had the one from unceasing application to business, not an hour passed that the other was not planning some new way to save dollars and cents.

In such an atmosphere of eager grasping for property, it would be strange had their children escaped the infection. Their little faces brightened at the sight of a penny, not that it would procure sweetmeats, but because it would add another to their store of coins; and the small hand grasped it with as instinctive and keen a pleasure as an aged miser clutches his gold. The oft-repeated parental injunction, "A penny saved is a penny earned," fell upon the childish ears, but childish wisdom applied the maxim; the confection and fruit-vender were rarely called upon by the young Grovners—the seed was taking root.

Mr. and Mrs. Grovner had nothing to give away. Poverty, in the form of ragged medicants, was rudely repulsed; misfortune, in the garb of despondency, met with rebuke, instead of sympathy; sorrow, in the persons of mourning widows and fatherless children, vainly sought words of consolation and a helping hand; the kindly voice of pity, and the whisperings of charity, were unheard by ears inaccessible save to the hints of frugality, the suggestions of economy, or the promptings of prudence. Ah, little do the unfortunate gain from those making haste to be rich!

Reading, the cheapest of all luxuries, Mr. Grovner thought too expensive to be encouraged. Books cost money, and newspapers couldn't be had for nothing, even if there wasn't any postage on them. When he was rich he would have a library worth showing. His wife had no social intercourse with her friends and neighbors; visits took time, and if she attended parties, she would be expected to give them. That would not do, so she remained at home, mind and body absorbed in the one paramount idea. Did either feel a lingering desire to listen to the notes of some lauded singer, or the eloquence of a distinguished lecturer, the price of tickets of admission softened disappointment, and made the sacrifice seem less.

The Grovner children were never permitted to leave the dusty, crowded city for a day in the woods with their companions. The fare back and forth was not to be disregarded; and an excursion of this nature was inevitably attended with more or less torn clothes. Money was always the mother's inducement; a promise of three cents each made the little men bear the privation heroically. Ah, nature is a better teacher than a mother whose idol is gold! One opens the heart to kindly influences, makes it more susceptible to genial impressions, quickens brotherly love, and brings the creature nearer the Creator; the other blunts the sensibilities, chokes the springs of benevolence, clogs the aspiring spirit, making it insensible to a loftier sentiment than the love of gain. Are there no other Mrs. Grovners?

None of the family attended church, for pew-rent was an item, and a minister tax not an unimportant consideration. If preaching and good example cost nothing, they would have availed themselves of their benefits, but as it was, parents and children were "a law to themselves." Their living was of the plainest possible kind, and quantity was studied as closely as quality. None of the Grovners were afflicted with gout or despepsia, if their palates were never regaled by dainty dishes.

Mr. Seth and Mrs. Susan were threatened with a dire calamity, in the shape of a visit from a distant relative, who had troubled them but once since their marriage. A letter had been received, avowing his intention to become better acquainted with his nephew and niece. They knew little about him save that he was a childless old man, rather odd in his ways, and burdened with but a small portion of this world's goods. Yet this much was certain; his stay with them would be attended with great inconvenience and expense—and the last reflection was the most anoying of all.

His appearance was not an event of rejoicing on the part of the host and hostess; the respectable looking old gentleman missed the hearty welcome he had promised himself. They were polite, but not cordial; attentive, but cold and distant, meeting his familiar advances with that indifferent reserve so chilling and discouraging. The children had been sent off to bed as soon as tea was over, and the three sat stiffly about the cold stove, Mrs. Grovner glancing now and then at the clock on the mantle-piece.

"Perhaps your uncle would like to retire," she observed to Mr. Seth.

Conversation had flagged for some minutes; it was hard doing all the talking, and uncle Abel approved the suggestion, though it was scarcely eight o'clock.

"I must confess to fatigue," he said. "I'm not young as I was once, and exertion tires me. I've been accustomed to sleeping in a warm room. If it won't be too much trouble, I'd like a little fire kindled for me; old blood feels these chilly nights," he added, apologetically.

Mr. Seth said, "Oh, no!" and Mrs. Susan said "Certainly no!" but anybody could see that their thoughts widely diverged from their words. The fire was made, and the nephew took a small hand-lamp to light Uncle Abel to his chamber.

"I should prefer this," said the latter, taking a larger one from the shelf near him, "if you have no objections. It holds more oil, I see, and sometimes, when I am restless and can't sleep, I read to induce drowsiness. It won't incommode you very much, I hope."

Seth said, "No, indeed!" and Susan, "Not in the least!" but mentally, their replies were different. Uncle Able and the largest lamp went up-stairs; husband and wife closed the doors for a connubial conference.

"Well!" said the niece.

"What do you think?" said the nephew.

"An assuming old fox!" she exclaimed.

"A confounded bore!" he ejaculated.

"An extra fire, Seth!"

"A lamp to read by, Susan!"

"Meat for dinner!"

"And coffee for breakfast!"

"Will he stay long, do you think?"

"Two or three months, judging from the size and weight of his trunk."

"A pretty bill of expense, truly!—and not a dollar to pay his board!"

"Fuel and light, and what he'll eat and drink, will put us back a whole year in our calculations. This comes of having relations! I wish I hadn't one in the world!—and to think he's nothing but a great uncle!"

This interesting conversation was prolonged some time; but enough has been given to show the feelings of Mr. and Mrs. Grovner in regard to Uncle Abel.

Morning did not mend the manners of the couple, yet the worthy old gentleman was urbane and smiling, seeming not to notice the frigid atmosphere that prevailed. He tried in vain to make the acquaintance of the children, but parental oversight prevented the object in view. It was recollected that they, with a certain class designated as "fools," were said to "tell the truth;" and that, in this instance, was not to be spoken.

Uncle Abel's sight was impaired, but he was not so blind that he could not detect dissatisfaction, though in a measure cloaked. His tarry was short at the Grovner mansion; in a week he took leave of his nephew and niece, to their unbounded satisfaction.

"We have done well," they said, "to get rid of him so easily. He might have staid a month."

And Uncle Abel was forgotten in the great struggle to make a fortune.

One year afterward, they heard of his decease by means of the following significant letter, which was found among his private papers, and forwarded to them after his death.

"NEPHEW AND NIECE:—When a childless old man crosses your threshold, yearning for love and sympathy, and that care which youth should voluntarily accord to old age, treat him not coldly, begrudge him not the food he eats, the fire that warms him, nor the light that enables him to beguile a lonely midnight hour. And moreover do not forget the hole in the floor. That this advice may benefit you, is the wish of your UNCLE ABEL."

"The hole in the floor." What did it mean. Light slowly began to creep into the bewildered brains of Mr. and Mrs. Grovner, revealing a startling truth in every line of the singular epistle before them. They looked at each other in blank dismay, in the consciousness that their hypocrisy and littleness had been exposed.

A place had been cut in the floor for the admission of a pipe from the stove in the room below. Being early in the season, this pipe had not been adjusted for the winter, and the space was consequently open. Uncle Abel occupied that chamber, and had no difficulty in overhearing every word that had been uttered beneath him by Seth and Mrs. Susan. The hole in the floor had betrayed them! How unfortunate they should have forgotten it! The secret of his short visit was understood. Both were much discomposed that their petty meanness had been brought to light, but were consoled by reflecting that nothing antagonistic to their interest would come of it.

But ah, a great many improbable things transpire in this world. Who would have imagined that Uncle Abel was worth his thousands? Who would have supposed that he was in possession of a fortune called by the initiated, "independent?" The "assuming old fox" had shown his cunning. Seth and Susan had overreached themselves. In striving to save a penny, they had lost a great many pounds. They were Uncle Abel's only surviving relatives, and he had intended making them his heirs.

But alas, the hole in the floor! he had willed his money to a charitable institution, bequeathing them only the knowledge of their parsimony and self-abasement. Irretrievable mistake—irreparable error! The important object of their lives defeated by a hole in the floor, when just upon the verge of realization.

Thrilling Adventure with a Shark.

In 1836 Capt. Blank—the captain does not wish his name mentioned—was first mate of a whaleship cruising out of New Bedford. The William King was one of those old-fashioned tubs peculiar to the last century, sailing equally well either way, bow or stern. Off Telegraph Hill, near San Francisco, a school of whales was raised, led by an immense bull, and steering in a northerly direction. Two boats were at once lowered, but they had scarcely touched the water when the school parted, one part running north, the other south. Capt. Blank's boat followed one band, while Jim Watson, the mate, followed the other. The captain's boat had a crew of magnificent oarsmen; they laid to their work with a will, and after an hour's pull came within range of the bull. Capt. Blank got an iron into him in short order, the fish sounded and went down at a speed which almost equalled that of the late "lightning express" train. The line ran out with a deafening hum; the loggerhead smoked, and the boat laid her bows deep into the water. Suddenly the strain ceased. The whale was coming up, and every eye conned the seas for a glimpse of the monster. He came up like a rocket, struck the boat on the keel amidships with his nose, and hurled it thirty feet in the air. As it descended, it capsized, and fell bottom uppermost. The men immediately swam for it, and, with the exception of the captain, reached it, where they squatted, holding on the keel and presenting the appearance of a lot of penguins nestling on a chunk of kelp. The captain swam also up, but finding the keel crowded, resolved not to risk an upsetting by venturing upon it. So he put an oar under each arm, and, treading water, kept near the boat, cheering the crew, who, as was natural to men in their situation, were nervous and down-hearted. They floated this way several minutes, and were gradually getting over the first shock, when the stroke oarsman, a gigantic negro, called out, "Look dar, a shark!" Nothing so horrifies a sailor as the appearance of the ravenous fish in hours of peril. The crew looked and saw a huge bottle-nosed shark floating apparently not more than a fathom below the surface. The captain saw the monster also, and felt his chances of escape dwindle to a cipher; nevertheless he did not lose courage, and instead of hastening the event which seemed beyond prevention, resolved to escape it if possible. He knew that a shark would never bite at an unsteady bait.

The nose of the creature is in its way; it must turn on its side and snap, and then only when the object is stationary. It may be so for a second only, but that is enough; the shark darts like lightning, and in a moment seizes his prey. The captain knew this, and his only salvation depended on his keeping constantly in motion. The least pause would be fatal, so with the two oars under his arms he kept afloat, moving about incessantly, his eyes fixed on the dark monster beneath him, which followed wherever he moved. Such a situation would be apt to affect the senses terribly, yet the captain says he was never calmer, never less troubled, and never less afraid of death. His mind, however, was unusually active; every circumstance of his life came before him with the clearness of noonday. The scenes of his youth in particular passed before him in vivid coloring. He saw the old farm house in which he was born—the hills, woods and meadows surrounding it; the distant village, the church spire, the flocks on the plains, the winding river, the cows browsing in the fields; he heard the clatter of the mill, the songs of the mowers, the birds singing in the groves and the gun echoing among the hills. He heard, too, the voice of one dearer to him than all on earth, the voice of one—but this all took place while a rapacious monster was floating within a few feet of him, waiting only for a moment's pause in his movements to rend him to pieces!

The second boat, having now rescued the wrecked men, approached the captain, who ordered its crew to shoot by him at full speed, and as it passed him he would grasp it and spring in, the critical moment being when he would lose motion, and the shark would be likely to seize him. However, that risk must be taken. The mate faithfully carried out his directions. The men strained every sinew. They were whalemen, and as such topgallant oarsmen, and the speed at which they sent that boat diving through the water would have shamed the flight of the swiftest seabird. The boat itself was scarcely seen, buried in a double wall of foaming spray, the oars bending like reeds, and the gunwales quivering at each stroke. It took a steady nerve, an eagle glance and a lightning grasp to secure the flying craft; but the captain had these, as it passed, seized the starboard gunwale, and was thrown like a shot into the boat. At the same instant the shark's head rose above the water, and its jaws snapped with a sound audible for a considerable distance. The captain, as he himself remarked, escaped "only by a scratch," the moment he was stationary the shark snapped at him, the velocity of his subsequent motion only saving him from a hideous death.—*San Francisco Post.*

An Inside View of Tramp Life.

Two of the best detectives in Massachusetts were detailed last summer to the western part of the State, to join the army of tramps, associate with them for several weeks, and keep a journal of their observations. The diaries of these two men are incorporated in the annual report of the chief of the State detective force, and render it an exceedingly interesting public document. One of the entries, under date of August 1, relates that a gang of tramps, moving toward the town of Washington, met another party in the woods, about twenty miles from Pittsfield. The leader of the second gang stated that they were waiting for a strike on the Boston and Albany railroad, and that there were scattered about in that country, about four hundred men, who were all waiting to join the strikers. These men appeared ready for any plan of pillage and destruction that was proposed. The proposition to burn the small stations on the road would have been carried into effect, had it not been for the argument that it would be laid to the poor men who were employed on the road. The plan of soaping the rails at various places, for the purpose of stopping the cars, was discussed; but as a strike was confidently expected, the tramps decided to wait a few days. The detectives took pains to find out whether the tramps they met were such from choice or necessity, and of all with whom they associated, they found but two who did not scout the idea of work upon any terms; and of the willingness of these two to work, they express doubts.

☞ "Hurry, mamma," said a little boy of five summers. "Hurry for the blood is all leaking out."

The Trumpeter's Horse.

I was nearly forty years of age, and I felt myself so safely anchored in the peaceable haven of a bachelor's life that nothing would induce me to run the risk of disturbing it by a marriage. But I had reckoned without the trumpeter's horse.

It was at the end of September, 1864, that I arrived at Paris from Baden, intending only to remain four-and-twenty hours. I had invited four or five friends to join me in Poiton for the hunting season, and, as they were to arrive at the beginning of October, I had only allowed myself a week at La Roche Targe to prepare for their reception. A letter from home awaited my arrival at Paris, bringing me the disastrous intelligence that out of twelve horses, five had fallen ill or lame during my stay at Baden, so that I was under the necessity of remounting my cavalry before I left Paris.

I made the round of all the horse-dealers in the Champs Elysees, where I was shown a collection of screws, the average price of which was £120; but I was neither in a humor nor in cash to throw away my money upon such useless beasts. It was a Wednesday, the day of Cheri's autumn sale; I went to the Rue de Ponthieu, and purchased at a venture eight horses, which cost me altogether £200. "Out of the eight," said I to myself, "there will surely be four or five which will go."

Among these horses there was one which I confess I bought principally on account of his coat. The catalogue did not assign to him any special qualifications as a hunter. All that it stated was, "Brutus, a saddle-horse, aged, well broken." It was a large dappled gray horse, but never had I seen one better marked, its smooth white skin dappled over with fine black spots so regularly distributed.

The next morning I left for La Roche Targe, and the following day my horses arrived. My first care was for Brutus. This gray horse had been running for the last forty-eight hours in my head, and I was anxious to try his paces, and see what he was good for. He had long teeth, and every mark of a respectable age, a powerful shoulder and he carried his head well; but what I most admired in Brutus was the way in which he looked at me, following every movement with his attentive, intelligent, inquisitive eye. Even my words seemed to interest him; he leaned his head on one side as if to hear me, and when I had finished speaking, replied with a merry neigh. The other seven horse were brought out to me in succession, but they resembled any other horses, and Brutus was certainly different from them all. I was anxious to take a little ride in the country, in order to make his acquaintance.

Brutus allowed himself to be saddled, bridled, and mounted as a horse who knew his work, and we started a quietly together, the best friends possible. He had a beautiful mouth, and answered to every turn of the rein, arching his neck, and champing his bit. His paces were perfect; he began by a slow measured canter, raising his feet very high, and letting them fall with the regularity of a pendulum. I tried him at a trot and a short gallop, and when I sought to quicken his pace he began to amble in grand style. "Ah," said I, "I see how it is; I have bought an old horse out of the cavalry riding-school at Saumur."

I was about to turn homewards, satisfied with the talents of Brutus, when a shot was heard a short distince off. It was one of my keepers firing at a rabbit, for which shot he it said, *en passant*, he afterwards received a handsome present from my wife. I was then exactly in the centre of an open space where six long green roads met. On hearing the shot Brutus stopped short, and put his ears forward in an attitude of attention; I was surprised to see him so impressionable. After the brilliant military education I assumed he had received in his youth, he must be well accustomed to the report of a gun. I pressed my knees against him to make him move on, but Brutus would not stir. I tried to back him, to make him turn to the right or to the left, but in vain. I made him feel my riding-whip, but still he was immovable. Brutus was not to be displaced; and yet—do not smile, for mine is a true history—each time I urged him to move the horse turned his head round, and gazed upon me with an eye expressive of impatience and surprise, and then relapsed into his motionless attitude. There was evidently some misunderstanding between me and my horse. I saw it in his eyes. Brutus was saying as plainly as he could without speech, "I horse, do what I ought to do; and you, horseman, do not perform your part."

I was more puzzled than embarrased. "What a strange horse Cheri has sold me! and why does he look upon me in such a way?" I was about to proceed to extremities, and administer to him a good thrashing, when another shot was fired.

The horse then made one bound. I thought I had gained my point, and again tried to start him, but in vain. He stopped short, and planted himself more resolutely than ever. I then got into a rage, and my riding-whip entered into play; I took it in both hands, and struck the horse right and left. Then Brutus, lost patience, and, finding passive resistance unavailing, defended himself by rearing, kicking and plunging; and in the midst of the battle, while the horse capered and kicked, and, I exasperated, was flogging him with the loaded butt-end of my broken whip, Brutus nevertheless found time to look at me, not only with impatience and surprise, but with rage and indignation. While I required of the horse the obedience he refused, he, on his part, was expecting of me something I did not do.

How did this end? To my shame be it spoken, I was relentlessly and disgracefully unseated. Brutus saw there was to be nothing gained by violence, so judged it necessary to employ malice. After a moment's pause, evidently passed in reflection, the horse put down his head and stood upright on his forelegs, with the address and equilibrium of a clown upon his hands. I was consquently deposited upon the sand, which fortunately happened to be rather thick in the place where I fell.

I tried to raise myself, but I cried out and fell stretchedly with my face towards the ground. I felt as if needles were sticking in my left leg. The hurt did not appear serious—the snapping of one of the small teadons—but not the less painful. I succeeded, however, in turning myself, and sat down; but while I was rubbing my eyes, which were filled with sand, I saw the great foot of a horse descend gently upon my head, and again extended me on my back. I then felt quite disheartened, and was ruminating in my mind what this strange horse could be, when I felt a quantitity of sand strike me in the face. I opened my eyes, and saw Brutus throwing up the dust with both fore and hind feet, trying to bury me. This lasted for several minutes, when, apparently thinking me sufficiently interred, Brutus knelt by my grave, and then galloped round me, describing a perfect curve. I called out to him to stop. He appeared to be embarrassed; but seeing my hat, which had been separated from me in my fall, he took it between his teeth, and galloped down one of the green paths out of my sight.

I was left alone. I shook off the sand which covered me, and with my arm and right leg—my left I could not move—dragged myself to a bushy bank, where I seated myself and shouted with all my might for assistance. But no answer; the wood was perfectly silent and deserted.

I remained alone in this wretched condition above half an hour, when I saw Brutus in the distance, returning by the same road by which he went, enveloped in a cloud of dust. Gradually, as it cleared away, I saw a little carriage approaching—a pony-chaise—and in the pony-chaise a lady, who drove it, with a small groom in the seat behind.

A few instances after, Brutus arrived covered with foam. He stopped before me, let fall my hat at his feet, and addressed me with a neigh, as much as to say: "I have done my duty, I have brought you help." But I did not trouble myself about Brutus and his explanations; I had no thought or looks save for the beautiful fairy who had come to my aid, and who, jumping from her little carriage, tripped lightly up to me, and suddenly two exclamations were uttered at the same moment.

"Madame de Noriolis!"

"Monsieur de la Roche Targe!"

I have an aunt, between whom and myself my marrying is a source of continual dispute.

"Marry," she would say.

"I will not," was my answer.

"Would you have a young lady? There are Miss A, Miss B, Miss C."

"But I won't marry."

"Then take a widow; there are Mrs. D. Mrs. E, Mrs. F," etc.

"But marry I will not."

Madame de Noriolis was always in the first rank among my aunt's widows. To tell me she was rich, lively, and pretty was unnecessary; but after setting forth all her attractions, my aunt would take from her secretary a map of the district where she lived, and point out the estates of Noriolis and La Roche Targe joined, and she had traced a red line upon the map uniting the two properties, which she constantly obliged me to look at. "Eight hundred acres within a ring fence! A fine chance for a sportsman." But I would shut my eyes and repeat as before, "I will never marry." Yet, seriously speaking, I was afraid of Madame de Noriolis, and always saw her head encircled with an aureole of my aunt's red line. Charming, sensible, talented, and 800 acres within a ring fence! Escape for your safety if you will not marry.

And I always did escape; but this time retreat was impossible. I lay extended on the turf, covered with sand, my hair in disorder, my clothes in tatters, and my leg stiff.

"What are you doing here?" inquired Madame de Noriolis. "What has happened?"

I candidly confessed I had been thrown.

"But you are not hurt much?"

"No; but I have put something out in my leg—nothing serious, I am sure."

"And where is the horse which has played you this trick?"

I pointed out Brutus, who was quietly grazing upon the shoots of the broom.

"How! it is him, the good horse! He has amply repaired his wrongs, as I will relate to you later. But you must go home directly."

"How? I cannot move a step."

"But I am going to drive you home, at the risk of compromising you."

And calling her little groom Bob, she led me gently by one arm, while Bob took the other, and made me get into her carriage. Five minutes afterwards we were moving in the direction of La Roche Targe, she holding the reins and driving the pony with a light hand; I looking at her, confused, embarrassed, stupid, ridiculous. Bob was charged to lead back Brutus.

"Extend your leg quite straight," said Madame de Noriolis, "and I will drive you very gently to avoid jolting." When she saw me comfortably installed, she said: "Tell me how you were thrown, and I will explain how I came to your assistance."

I began my story, but when I spoke of the efforts of Brutus to unseat me after the two shots, "I understand it all," she exclaimed; "you have bought the trumpeter's horse."

"The trumpeter's horse?"

"Yes, that explains it all. You have seen many scenes in the Cirque de l'Imperatrice, the performances of the trumpeter's horse. A Chasseur d'Afrique enters the arena upon a gray horse; then come the Arabs, who fire upon him, and he is wounded and falls; and, as you did not fall, the horse, indignant at your not performing your part in the piece, threw you down. What did he do next?"

I related the little attempt of Brutus to bury me.

"Exactly like the trumpeter's horse. He sees his master wounded; but the Arabs may return and kill him, so what does the horse do? He buries him and gallops off, carrying away the colors, that they may not fall into the hands of the Arabs."

"That is my hat which Brutus carried off."

"Precisely. He goes to fetch the vivandiere—the vivandiere of to-day being your humble servant the Countess de Noriolis. Your great gray horse galloped into my courtyard, where I was standing on the doorsteps, putting on my gloves and ready to get into my carriage. My grooms seeing a horse saddled and bridled, with a hat in his mouth and without a rider, tries to catch him; but he escapes their pursuit, goes straight up to the steps, and kneels before me. The men again tried to capture him; but he gallops off, stops at the gate turns round, and looks at me. I felt sure he was calling me; so I jumped into my carriage and set off. The horse darts through roads not always adapted for carriages, but I follow him, and arrive where I find you."

At the moment Madam de Noriolis had finished these words the carriage received a fearful jolt, and we saw in the air the head of Brutus, who was standing erect on his hind legs behind us. Seeing the little back seat on the carriage untenanted, he had taken the opportunity of getting in another specimen of his saleuts, by executing the most brilliant of all his circus performances. He had placed his fore feet upon the back seat of the little carriage, and was tranquilly continuing his route, trotting upon his hind legs alone, Bob striving in vain to replace him upon four.

Madam de Noriolis was so frightened she let the reins escape from her hands, and sank fainting in my arms. With my left hand I recovered the reins, with my right arm I supported Madam de Noriolis, my leg all the time causing me most frightful torture.

In this manner Madam de Noriolis made her first entry into La Roche Targe. When she returned there six weeks later she had become my wife.

"Such indeed is life," she exclaimed. "This would never have come to pass if you had not bought the trumpeter's horse."—*London Society.*

Japanese Watering-Places.

Kusuta is a place of perhaps four or five thousand people, and in the busy season there are as many more visitors. From nearly a hundred springs, at the foot of the adjacent hills, the hot water impregnated with sulphur, bursts out of the ground and unites into two streams which flow down and meet in the centre of the village. Just upon the meeting place, in the very centre of the town there is a larger of the two streams flows down a slight decline, a series of tanks have been built of wood and stone for bathing. These are about two feet deep and ten or twelve square. The water flows into the upper tank and thence successively into the others. Formerly a large shed was built over these; but a year or so ago it was burned down and has never been rebuilt, so that these tanks are not now used for bathing. So strongly is the water impregnated with sulphur that the whole bed of the streams, the sides and bottom of the tanks, and every pipe and ditch in which the water runs, are covered with a thick coating of yellow sulphur, while the steam is continually rising like clouds into the air and filling the whole town with a peculiar odor of sulphur till one is tempted to think that he has made an untimely entrance into the infernal regions. Around the open tanks of which I have spoken stand the hotels. They are all built as nearly all the buildings in the country are, with wooden frames, not broad, and the interstices wattled with bamboo and plastered on the inside with plaster, and on the outside with a mixture of yellow mud and chopped straw. The roofs are sometimes thatched, but more often are tiled or covered with pieces of bark, and on top are laid rows of large stones to hold them down. The larger hotels are three-stories high, which is a very unusual thing in Japan. There are no doors or windows, properly speaking; but instead there are sliding screens, consisting of a light wooden sash like a window, each covered with thin, but very tough, white paper. Inside, the partitions between the rooms are also paper screens, but somewhat thicker. The baths are everywhere. Whenever a little tank a couple of feet deep, and from five to ten or twelve feet square can be, put you find one with a stream of the hot sulphur-water pouring into it. Often the stream is made to fall from a height of six or eight feet; and there the Japanese delight to sit under the stream by the hour letting it fall on their heads and backs. They seem impervious to heat.

At Shibee, another watering-place where there are hot springs, the hotel at which we stopped had two baths, the hot bath and the cool one. I tried the latter, and found it so hot that I could not bear to get into it. What the other was the reader can perhaps imagine. But the Japanese would go in and stay half an hour at a time and then come out looking as if they had been parboiled, as indeed they had. The baths are usually covered with a roof, and sometimes one or two sides are enclosed, but they are never entirely enclosed. The Japanese have no idea of privacy in any such matter, and it never occurs to them that the naked body is a thing to be concealed. The baths are in the most public places, usually by the side of the road, and close to nearly every bath is a little tea house or resting-place, where the bathers, after coming out of the water lounge on the mats, smoke, chat and watch the bathers, while the waiting-girls, often very pretty and graceful little maidens, bring tea and sweetmeats and assist in the various little offices of the toilet. Both sexes bathe together absolutely naked. At the upper end of the tanks, where the large bathing-shed formerly stood, two new sheds have been built, smaller than the old one but capable of containing about 200 people closely packed. The method of bathing is somewhat different here. Boards are laid across the tanks as close as they can be placed and on these the bathers sit with their legs hanging down into the water. Each person is provided with a wooden dipper, with which she or he dips up the water from the tanks and pours it over his or her body. Along two sides of the sheds are a series of shelves to hold the clothes of the bather, and the other two sides are open; and there is always a crowd of persons standing around waiting for a vacant seat on the boards. At these two sheds the water is considered to be stronger and more beautiful than anywhere else in the village. Consequently they are especially patronized by invalids. The springs of Kusuta are considered very beneficial in cases of eruptive disease, and the two bathing houses mentioned are nearly given up to the sick people. Every form of loathsome skin disease adorns them. With a hundred or more persons all bathing together in the same tub, crowded as close as they can sit, and only a stream of fresh water not more than two or three inches in diameter flowing in, it would seem as if a person who got well, of one disease would be pretty likely to catch another just as bad in its place. But I was assured on all sides that this did not happen, and that many cures were, in fact, brought about.

Young Folks' Column.

The Fall Artists.

BY JEANIE ROGERS SHERMAN.

Down under the wild spreading maples,
Two dear little maidens I see,
And sweeter than bird's song in spring-time,
Sounds their merry chatter to me.

"Now what do you 'spose is the reason,"
Asked Bessie, a moment ago,
"That makes all those leaves look so beautiful,
Say Margery, dear, does you know?"

"Why, yes," I heard Margery answer,
"They're only just painted and so
The rain will wash off their bright colors;
You think now that I do not know.

"But wait till there comes a hard rain-storm,
And then you will find that it's true,
For Auntie, who told me about it,
Paints pictures, and so, of course, knew.

"She said that when the dear summer
Had only a short time to stay,
It sent, by the queer thistle blossoms,
A message to elfins, away.

"Telling them to hunt up their brushes,
The brightest of colors prepare,
Then hasten at once to the forests,
For autumn had work for them there.

"And now, though I never have seen them,
I'm certain as certain can be,
That they have been painting these maples;
Why look anybody can see.

"That these leaves are just like the colors
Auntie had on the pallet, last night;
She taught me their names, and now, Bessie,
I know every one at first sight.

"This bright leaf is purest vermillion,
And these, yellow ochre and red,
And that"—here a butterfly fluttered
Just over my Margery's head.

And she tossed down her leaves in a twinkling,
Then away in pursuit ran the two,
Leaving me to wonder it really,
This queer elfin story was true.

—*New York Tribune.*

The Amiable Man.

The amiable man was an amiable boy. He never gave anybody any trouble. He did as he was bid; he believed as he was told When you sat him down anywhere, he was *there*, and you knew where to find him. He never went nosing around into dark corners to find out what was going on. He never bothered anyone by asking questions; or if he so far forgot himself as to ask them, he was satisfied with the answers that were given him. When he went to school, he took things as they were given him. He never said "Why?" When the teacher told him that t-o-u-g-h spelled *tuff*, and h-o-u-g-h *hack*, and p-l-o-u-g-h *plow*, and t-h-r-o-u-g-h *thru*, he didn't say a word; he didn't even wink his eye; he just took it all down. When he learned in geography that "the earth is the planet or ball on which we dwell," and that "the equator is an imaginary line on the earth's surface," he didn't ask "What is a planet?" he didn't ask "How broad is the line, and what color is it?" When he learned in grammar that all nouns form their plural by adding *s* to the singular, and then learned man, men; woman, women; child, children; he did not argue the point; he did not see any incongruity.

Time passed on. He became a man; an amiable man. He never made anybody any trouble; he never trod on anybody's toes; he never stuck out his elbows; he had no convictions that interfered with anybody on any subject; he had, so to speak, no bones in his moral framework: he was a good deal like a moral feather-bed. He never got into a dispute; he agreed with every one. If Mr. A., said to him, "Black is black; don't you think so?" he replied "Oh, certainly; as black as midnight." If Mr. B., said to him "Black is white in my opinion; and what is your view?" he never failed to say, "Oh yes, driven snow could not be whiter." And both Mr. A., and Mr. B., went away saying, "What a very amiable man Mr. Cold Molasses is! And how excellent his judgmen ls!"

The amiable man has spent a portion of his life in the editorial chair, and a portion in the ministry. As an editor he never lost a subscriber through the utterances of some unpopular or unexpected truth. As a preacher, he never repelled any one. No one was ever known to get up and go out, or even to sit uncomfortable under his words. I have heard though, that once he—used, that is borrowed, the sermon of an eminent preacher. While he was preaching it, some of the people were in tears; and at the close of the service a rumseller came up, bathed in tears, and exclaimed: "Sir, what must I do to be saved? I feel that I am a lost and guilty sinner." The amiable preacher cried in dismay and amazement, "Why, my dear sir, I beg your pardon; I would not hurt your feelings and make you feel badly for the world. I assure you it was all a mistake."

While the great war convulsed the land, he went through it without turning a hair. He never differed from any one; he never expressed an opinion which could possibly arouse antagonism. He took safe ground, urged the blessedness of peace, the wickedness of strife, the horrors of bloodshed. He always prayed in public "for the sailor and the soldier, and for all classes and conditions of men."

The amiable man is much sought after at union meetings and conventions. He never says anything on these occasions that is likely to hurt anybody's feelings, and he never takes offence at what anybody ever says.

In course of time, it chances that the amiable man marries the sweet woman. She, too, has passed a life unstained by a conviction or an opinion. In youth she adopted the views of her father; at marriage, those of her husband. She thinks it unwomanly, masculine, strong-minded, to have an opinion or to assert herself. She holds that weakness, dependence, tutelage, is the normal state of woman. She is to be led, guided, held, supported. "There is something so sweet in dependence," she often says. Her favorite quotation is from Longfellow: "What I most prize in woman is her affections, not her intellect."

So, she is married to the amiable man, and their first-born is an idiot.—*Dr. Dobbs, in the National Baptist.*

"Good-Bye, Home!"

One fine day Ruth and John thought they would go forth into the wide world in search of what they could find. So John took a big stick, and Ruth took her pet lamb (it was not a live one,) and thus they set out.

They had not gone far, when John turned and said:

"Good-bye, home. We are so old that it is time for us to learn something of the great outside world, and we are going to see what we can find there. Good-bye, mamma; good-bye, papa; good-bye, all the girls in the kitchen!"

On and still on they went, till they met two little girls and a boy. One of the girls was in a swing, and the boy was swinging her.

"Come and play," said the other girl, who was seated on the ground; but John said:

"No, we can't stop; we are going to seek our fortunes."

They walked on and on, and by and by they grew so tired that they sat down under a tree. Here Ruth fell asleep; and John followed her example. He was awakened by a loud barking. It was from old Milo, his uncle's dog.

Soon the mother of the children appeared, and said:

"Why, where are you straying to, children? We did not know what had become of you. Come home this instant."

John looked at Ruth, and Ruth looked at John.

"I think we will give up our plan of going out into the wide world," said he; "for it is a larger place than I thought."

"Yes, I think we had better go home," said Ruth.

So they all went home, and Milo led the way, barking for joy.—*Monthly Reader.*

A Short Study for Boys.

The life of Charles O'Connor, the eminent lawyer, shows what diligence and perseverance will accomplish.

When eight years old he was an officeboy and newspaper-carrier. His father published a weekly newspaper, and Charles, besides attending in the office, delivered the journal to its subscribers in New York, Brooklyn and Jersey City. He used a skiff to cross the rivers, and frequently would be out all Saturday night serving his route. It is said that he never missed a subscriber.

When seventeen years old, he entered a lawyer's office as an errand-boy. He borrowed law boys, took them home and read them by the light of a candle far into the night. Several lawyers, noticing the boy's industry, aided him in his studies.

When he was twenty-four years old he was admitted to the bar, and even then it was said that young O'Connor's legal opinion was worth more than that of many other lawyers.

But success comes slowly to a young lawyer, and it was not until his thirtieth year that clients recognized the legal learning and skill of young O'Connor. He was very poor, but industry and ability were his capital. He worked hard at the smallest case, never slighting any trust, and in time secured the reputation of a man who would do his best for these employing him. To this conscientiousness and industry he owed his success.—*Anon.*

☞ "I want five cents' worth of starch," said a little girl to a grocer's clerk. The clerk asked: "What do you want five cents, worth of starch for?" "Why, for five cents' of course," she answered. And the clerk concluded to attend to his own business.

The Great Reputation

Which Vegetine has attained in all parts of the country as a

Great and Good Medicine,

and the large number of testimonials which are constantly being received from persons who have been cured by its use, are conclusive proof of its great value. It is recommended by physicians and apothecaries. As a Blood-Purifier and Health-Restorer it has no equal. Vegetine is not prepared for a fancy drink made from poor liquors, which debilitates the system and tends to destroy health instead of restoring it.

Are not the many testimonials given for the different complaints satisfactory to any reasonable persons suffering from disease that they can be cured? Read the different testimonials given, and no one can doubt. In many of these cases the persons say that their pain and suffering cannot be expressed, as in cases of Scrofula, where, apparently, the whole body was one mass of corruption. If Vegetine will relieve pain, cleanse, purify and cure such diseases restoring the patient to perfect health after trying different physicians, many remedies, suffering for years, is it not conclusive proof, if you are a sufferer, you can be cured? Why is this medicine performing such great cures? It works in the blood, in the circulation of fluids. It can truly be called the *Great Blood Purifier.* The great source of disease originates in the blood; and no medicine that does not act directly upon it to purify and renovate, has any just claim upon public attention. When the blood becomes lifeless and stagnant, either from change of weather or climate, want of exercise, irregular diet, or from any other cause, the Vegetine will renew the blood, carry off the putrid humors, cleanse the stomach, regulate the bowels, and impart a tone of vigor to the whole body. The conviction is, in the public mind as well as in the medical profession, that the remedies supplied by the *Vegetable Kingdom* are more safe, more successful in the cure of disease, than mineral medicines. Vegetine is composed of roots, barks and herbs. It is pleasant to take and is perfectly safe to give an infant. Do you need it? Do not hesitate to try it. You will never regret it.

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CHARLESTON.

H. R. STEVENS:—

Dear Sir,—This to certify that I